

# (Exodus) Exodus 17:13-16

by J. Vernon McGee

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*God's plan is to ultimately get rid of the old nature, but until then, we must recognize the ongoing conflict between the flesh and the spirit.*

**Duration:** 4:00

**Scripture:** Exodus 17:13

**Topics:** "Expositional", "Overcoming the Flesh", "Spiritual Warfare"

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## Description

J. Vernon McGee emphasizes the significance of Joshua's preparation as Moses' successor and the ongoing battle against the flesh represented by Amalek. He highlights God's promise to ultimately eradicate the old nature, reminding us that this conflict will persist throughout our lives. McGee stresses that God will never compromise with our sinful nature, and we must recognize the constant struggle between the spirit and the flesh. The sermon serves as a reminder of the importance of spiritual warfare and reliance on God for victory over our old selves.

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## Transcript

Now, verse 13, "...and Joshua discomfited Amalek and his people with the edge of the sword. And the Lord said unto Moses, Write this for a memorial in a book, and rehearse it in the ears of Joshua." And I think we ought to stop there to have our attention called to this man Joshua for the first time because this is the man who's going to succeed Moses. And you can see already that he's being prepared for this position.

God was preparing him. He was an ordinary man, as we shall see, but God prepared him for the task. Now, God says here that, "...I want you to let Joshua know this, for I will utterly put out the remembrance of Amalek from under heaven." Now, God's going to get rid of the flesh, friends, and thank God for that.

If the Lord took all of the church right now into heaven as it is, and they were not changed, we're told that the dead are to be raised incorruptible, and the living are to be changed, they're to be transformed, they're to have the same thing happen to them that happened to the Lord, the Mount of Transfiguration. And if that didn't take place and the church was taken to heaven like it is right now, it wouldn't be heaven, friends, it'd be just like it is where you are and where I am because you and I had wrecked the place with this old nature we got. God's going to get rid of it.

God has made the statement here, "...I'll utterly put out the remembrance of Amalek from under heaven." And I say today, thank God He's going to get rid of this old nature of Vernon McGee. I've been dragging it around like a corpse for years, and I'd like to get rid of it, but I find out that that old nature, I don't get rid of it, and it reasserts itself again and again. Now we are told here in verse 15 of chapter 17 of Exodus, "...And Moses built an altar, called the name of it Jehovah-Neesi.

For he said, Because the Lord hath sworn that the Lord will have war with Amalek from generation to generation." Now there are three things that are here that are very important. The first thing that God mentioned is this, that He's going to ultimately get rid of Amalek. "...I'll utterly put out the remembrance of Amalek." God's going to get rid of the old nature.

And then the second thing is this, that the Lord will never compromise with this old nature that I've got and that you've got. Never will He. He'll have war with Amalek from generation to generation.

You're not going to reach the place, friends, that you're going to get rid of the old nature in this life. God will have war from generation to generation. And the important thing is, therefore, the second thing is, God will never compromise with it.

And that means that there will be the third thing. This constant conflict will go on as long as you and I are in this body and in this life. "...the spirit warreth against the flesh, and the flesh against the spirit, and these are contrary." This is the thing that you and I need to recognize today.

And here was this battle with Amalek, and it represents the flesh.

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