

Message Twelve
**The Necessity of Spiritual Warfare
and
God's People Formed into an Army Ready for Battle**

RK Hymns: 885

Scripture Reading: Num. 21:1-3, 21-35; 27:12-23; 31:13-54

- Num 21:1 And when the Canaanite, the king of Arad, who dwelt in the Negev, heard that Israel was coming by the way of Atharim, he fought against Israel and took some of them captive.
- Num 21:2 And Israel made a vow to Jehovah and said, If You will indeed deliver this people into my hand, then I will utterly destroy their cities.
- Num 21:3 And Jehovah listened to the voice of Israel and delivered up the Canaanites, and they utterly destroyed them and their cities. Thus the name of the place was called Hormah.
- Num 21:21 And Israel sent messengers to Sihon the king of the Amorites, saying,
- Num 21:22 Let me pass through your land. We will not turn aside into field or into vineyard; we will not drink water from any well. We will go by the King's Highway until we have passed through your territory.
- Num 21:23 But Sihon would not allow Israel to pass through his territory. And Sihon gathered all his people together and went out against Israel into the wilderness, and he came to Jahaz and fought against Israel.
- Num 21:24 And Israel struck him with the edge of the sword and took possession of his land from the Arnon to the Jabbok, as far as the children of Ammon; for the border of the children of Ammon was strong.
- Num 21:25 And Israel took all these cities, and Israel settled in all the cities of the Amorites, in Heshbon and in all her villages.
- Num 21:26 For Heshbon was the city of Sihon the king of the Amorites, who had fought against the former king of Moab and taken all his land out of his hand, as far as the Arnon.
- Num 21:27 Therefore those who speak in proverbs say, Come to Heshbon; let it be built, / And let the city of Sihon be established.
- Num 21:28 For fire has gone forth from Heshbon, / A flame from the city of Sihon; / It has consumed Ar of Moab / And swallowed up the high places of the Arnon.
- Num 21:29 Woe to you, O Moab! / You have perished, O people of Chemosh; / He has given his sons as fugitives, / And his daughters have gone into captivity, / To an Amorite king, Sihon.
- Num 21:30 We have shot at them; / Heshbon is ruined as far as Dibon, / And we have laid waste as far as Nophah, / Fire spreads as far as Medeba.
- Num 21:31 Thus Israel settled in the land of the Amorites.
- Num 21:32 And Moses sent some to spy out Jazer. And they captured its villages and dispossessed the Amorites who were there.
- Num 21:33 And they turned and went up on the way that leads to Bashan; and Og the king of Bashan went out against them, he and all his people, for battle at Edrei.
- Num 21:34 And Jehovah said to Moses, Do not fear him, for I have given him and all his people and his land into your hand; and you shall do to him as you did to Sihon the king of the Amorites, who was dwelling at Heshbon.
- Num 21:35 So they struck him and his sons and all his people until there was no survivor left to him, and they possessed his land.
- Num 27:12 And Jehovah said to Moses, Go up to this mountain of the Abarim and see the land which I have given to the children of Israel.
- Num 27:13 And when you have seen it, you also shall be gathered to your people, just as Aaron your brother was gathered,
- Num 27:14 Because you rebelled against My word in the wilderness of Zin, in the strife of the assembly, and failed to sanctify Me at the waters before their eyes. (These are the waters of Meribah-kadesh, in the wilderness of Zin.)
- Num 27:15 And Moses spoke to Jehovah, saying,
- Num 27:16 Let Jehovah, the God of the spirits of all flesh, appoint a man over the assembly,
- Num 27:17 Who will go out before them and who will come in before them, and who will lead them out and who will bring them in; so that the assembly of Jehovah will not be like sheep which have no shepherd.
- Num 27:18 And Jehovah said to Moses, Take Joshua the son of Nun, a man in whom is the Spirit, and lay your hand upon him;
- Num 27:19 And set him before Eleazar the priest and before the whole assembly, and give him a charge in their sight.

Num 27:20 And you shall put some of your honor upon him, so that the whole assembly of the children of Israel may obey him.

Num 27:21 And he shall stand before Eleazar the priest, and he shall inquire for him by the judgment of the Urim before Jehovah. At his word shall they go out and at his word they shall come in, both he and all the children of Israel with him, even the whole assembly.

Num 27:22 And Moses did as Jehovah commanded him, and he took Joshua and set him before Eleazar the priest and before the whole assembly.

Num 27:23 And he laid his hands upon him and gave him a charge just as Jehovah had spoken through Moses.

Num 31:13 And Moses and Eleazar the priest and all the leaders of the assembly went out to meet them outside the camp.

Num 31:14 And Moses became angry with the officers of the company, the captains of thousands and the captains of hundreds, who came from service in the war.

Num 31:15 And Moses said to them, Have you kept all the women alive?

Num 31:16 It was these who caused the children of Israel, through the counsel of Balaam, to act unfaithfully against Jehovah in the matter of Peor, so that the plague came upon the assembly of Jehovah.

Num 31:17 Now therefore kill every male among the little ones, and kill every woman who has known a man by lying with him.

Num 31:18 But all the little ones among the women, who have not known a male by lying with him, keep alive for yourselves.

Num 31:19 And you, encamp outside the camp seven days, everyone who has killed any person and everyone who has touched any slain; purify yourselves on the third day and on the seventh day, you and your captives.

Num 31:20 And you shall purify for yourselves every garment and every article of skin and everything made of goats' hair and every article of wood.

Num 31:21 And Eleazar the priest said to the men of war who had gone to the battle, This is the statute of the law which Jehovah has commanded Moses:

Num 31:22 Only the gold and the silver, the bronze, the iron, the tin, and the lead,

Num 31:23 Everything that can go into the fire, you shall pass through the fire, and it will become clean; but it shall be purified with the water for impurity; and everything that cannot go into the fire you shall pass through the water.

Num 31:24 And you shall wash your clothes on the seventh day, and you shall be clean; and afterward you may come into the camp.

Num 31:25 Then Jehovah spoke to Moses, saying,

Num 31:26 You and Eleazar the priest and the heads of the fathers' households of the assembly, take the sum of the booty that was captured, both of man and of beast,

Num 31:27 And halve the booty between those skilled in war who went out to battle and the whole assembly.

Num 31:28 And levy a tribute to Jehovah from the men of war who went out to battle: one living thing out of five hundred, of the persons and of the cattle and of the donkeys and of the flock;

Num 31:29 Take it from their half and give it to Eleazar the priest, for Jehovah's heave offering.

Num 31:30 And of the children of Israel's half, you shall take one seized out of fifty, of the persons, of the cattle, of the donkeys, and of the flocks, from all the beasts, and give them to the Levites, who keep the charge of the tabernacle of Jehovah.

Num 31:31 And Moses and Eleazar the priest did just as Jehovah commanded Moses.

Num 31:32 Now the booty that was left from the spoil, which the men of war had taken, was six hundred seventy-five thousand sheep,

Num 31:33 And seventy-two thousand cattle,

Num 31:34 And sixty-one thousand donkeys,

Num 31:35 And thirty-two thousand persons in all, the women who had not known lying with a male.

Num 31:36 And the half which was the portion of those who went out to war was in number three hundred thirty-seven thousand five hundred sheep.

Num 31:37 And Jehovah's tribute of the sheep was six hundred seventy-five.

Num 31:38 And the cattle were thirty-six thousand, of which Jehovah's tribute was seventy-two.

Num 31:39 And the donkeys were thirty thousand five hundred, of which Jehovah's tribute was sixty-one.

Num 31:40 And the human beings were sixteen thousand, of whom Jehovah's tribute was thirty-two persons.

Num 31:41 And Moses gave the tribute, Jehovah's heave offering, to Eleazar the priest, just as Jehovah had commanded Moses.

Num 31:42 And of the children of Israel's half, which Moses had separated from the men who had gone to war,

Num 31:43 That is, the assembly's half, was three hundred thirty-seven thousand five hundred sheep,

- Num 31:44 And thirty-six thousand cattle,
 Num 31:45 And thirty thousand five hundred donkeys,
 Num 31:46 And sixteen thousand persons -
 Num 31:47 Now Moses took from the children of Israel's half, one drawn out of every fifty, both of man and of beast, and gave them to the Levites, who kept the charge of the tabernacle of Jehovah, just as Jehovah had commanded Moses.
- Num 31:48 And the officers who were over the thousands of the army, the captains of thousands and the captains of hundreds, approached Moses.
- Num 31:49 And they said to Moses, Your servants have taken the sum of the men of war who are under our charge, and not a man is missing from us;
- Num 31:50 And we have presented Jehovah's offering, what every man has obtained, articles of gold, armlets and bracelets, signet rings, earrings and pendants, to make expiation for our souls before Jehovah.
- Num 31:51 And Moses and Eleazar the priest took the gold from them, all kinds of wrought articles.
- Num 31:52 And all the gold of the heave offering which they offered up to Jehovah, from the captains of thousands and from the captains of hundreds, was sixteen thousand seven hundred fifty shekels.
- Num 31:53 The men of war had taken booty, each for himself.
- Num 31:54 So Moses and Eleazar the priest took the gold from the captains of thousands and of hundreds, and brought it into the Tent of Meeting as a memorial for the children of Israel before Jehovah.

I. We need to realize the necessity of spiritual warfare—Num. 21:1-3, 21-35:

- Num 21:1 And when the Canaanite, the king of Arad, who dwelt in the Negev, heard that Israel was coming by the way of Atharim, he fought against Israel and took some of them captive.
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- Num 21:35 So they struck him and his sons and all his people until there was no survivor left to him, and they possessed his land.

- A. Spiritual warfare has its source in the conflict between the satanic will and the divine will; this is a warfare between the kingdom of Satan and the kingdom of God—Matt. 6:10; 7:21; 12:26, 28; Isa. 14:12-14.
- Matt 6:10 Your kingdom come; Your will be done, as in heaven, so also on earth.
- Matt 7:21 Not everyone who says to Me, Lord, Lord, will enter into the kingdom of the heavens, but he who does the will of My Father who is in the heavens.
- Matt 12:26 And if Satan casts out Satan, he is divided against himself. How then will his kingdom stand?
- Matt 12:28 But if I, by the Spirit of God, cast out the demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you.
- Isa 14:12 How you have fallen from heaven, / O Daystar, son of the dawn! / How you have been hewn down to earth, / You who made nations fall prostrate!
- Isa 14:13 But you, you said in your heart: / I will ascend to heaven; / Above the stars of God / I will exalt my throne. / And I will sit upon the mount of assembly / In the uttermost parts of the north.
- Isa 14:14 I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; / I will make myself like the Most High.
- B. In the Lord's recovery we are on a battlefield; in order to possess Christ as the good land for the fulfillment of God's purpose, we must fight against and defeat the satanic forces—Josh. 5:2—6:16.
- Josh 5:2 At that time Jehovah said to Joshua, Make knives of flint, and circumcise again the children of Israel a second time.
- Josh 5:3 And Joshua made knives of flint and circumcised the children of Israel at Gibeath-haaraloth.
- Josh 5:4 And this is the reason Joshua circumcised them: All the people who came out of Egypt who were males, all the men of war, died in the wilderness on the way, after they had come out of Egypt.
- Josh 5:5 Although all the people who came out were circumcised, all the people who were born in the wilderness on the way, after the others had come out of Egypt, had not been circumcised.
- Josh 5:6 For the children of Israel went for forty years through the wilderness until all the nation, the men of war who had come out of Egypt, were consumed, because they did not listen to the voice of Jehovah, they to whom Jehovah swore that they would not see the land that Jehovah had sworn to their fathers to give us, a land flowing with milk and honey.
- Josh 5:7 And their children, whom He had raised up in place of them, these Joshua circumcised; for they were uncircumcised, because they had not circumcised them on the way.
- Josh 5:8 And when they had finished circumcising the whole nation, they remained in their place at the camp until they recovered.
- Josh 5:9 Then Jehovah said to Joshua, Today I have rolled away the reproach of Egypt from off you. So the name of that place has been called Gilgal to this day.
- Josh 5:10 And the children of Israel camped in Gilgal; and they held the Passover on the fourteenth day of the month in the evening on the plains of Jericho.
- Josh 5:11 And on the day after the Passover, on that very day, they ate of the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain.
- Josh 5:12 And the manna ceased on that day, when they ate of the produce of the land; and there was no longer manna for the children of Israel, but they ate of the yield of the land of Canaan that year.
- Josh 5:13 Now once, when Joshua was by Jericho, he lifted up his eyes and looked; and behold, there was a man standing opposite him, and His sword was drawn in His hand. And Joshua went to Him and said to Him, Are You for us or for our adversaries?
- Josh 5:14 And He said, Neither, but as the Captain of Jehovah's army have I now come. Then Joshua fell to the ground upon his face and worshipped. And he said to Him, What does my Lord speak to His servant?
- Josh 5:15 And the Captain of Jehovah's army said to Joshua, Remove your sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy. And Joshua did so.
- Josh 6:1 Now Jericho was shut up so tight because of the children of Israel that no one went out and no one went in.

Josh 6:2 And Jehovah said to Joshua, See, I have given Jericho and its king and the mighty men of valor into your hand.

Josh 6:3 And you shall circle the city, all the men of valor, going around the city one time. Thus shall you do for six days.

Josh 6:4 And seven priests shall carry seven trumpets of rams' horns before the Ark. Then on the seventh day you shall circle the city seven times, and the priests shall blow the trumpets.

Josh 6:5 And when they give off the blast of the ram's horn and you hear the trumpet sound, all the people shall shout with a great shout. And the wall of the city will fall down flat, and the people shall go up, each straight ahead.

Josh 6:6 So Joshua the son of Nun called the priests and said to them, Take up the Ark of the Covenant, and let seven priests carry seven trumpets of rams' horns before the Ark of Jehovah.

Josh 6:7 And he said to the people, Pass on and circle the city, and let the armed men pass on before the Ark of Jehovah.

Josh 6:8 Then when Joshua had spoken to the people, the seven priests carrying the seven trumpets of rams' horns before Jehovah passed on and blew the trumpets; and the Ark of the Covenant of Jehovah went after them.

Josh 6:9 And the armed men went before the priests who blew the trumpets; and the rearguard went after the Ark, the trumpets continually blowing.

Josh 6:10 And Joshua commanded the people, saying, You shall not shout, nor let your voice be heard, nor let a word go forth from your mouth, until the day I say to you, Shout! Then you shall shout.

Josh 6:11 So he had the Ark of Jehovah circle the city, going around it one time. And they came into the camp and lodged in the camp.

Josh 6:12 And Joshua rose early in the morning, and the priests took up the Ark of Jehovah.

Josh 6:13 And the seven priests carrying the seven trumpets of rams' horns went before the Ark of Jehovah, continually blowing the trumpets; and the armed men went before them, and the rearguard went after the Ark of Jehovah, the trumpets continually blowing.

Josh 6:14 And they circled the city on the second day one time and returned to the camp. This they did for six days.

Josh 6:15 Then on the seventh day they rose early, at the break of dawn, and circled the city in the same manner seven times. Only on that day did they circle the city seven times.

Josh 6:16 And at the seventh time the priests blew the trumpets, and Joshua said to the people, Shout! For Jehovah has given you the city.

C. The army of God defeated the king of Arad, Sihon the king of the Amorites, and Og the king of Bashan—Num. 21:1-3, 21-35:

Num 21:1 And when the Canaanite, the king of Arad, who dwelt in the Negev, heard that Israel was coming by the way of Atharim, he fought against Israel and took some of them captive.

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- Num 21:35 So they struck him and his sons and all his people until there was no survivor left to him, and they possessed his land.

1. The kings of Arad (v. 1), of the Amorites (v. 21), and of Bashan (v. 33) were the “gate guards” on the east of the Jordan, guarding the land of Canaan, the kingdom of darkness, for Satan:

Num 21:1 And when the Canaanite, the king of Arad, who dwelt in the Negev, heard that Israel was coming by the way of Atharim, he fought against Israel and took some of them captive.

Num 21:21 And Israel sent messengers to Sihon the king of the Amorites, saying,

Num 21:33 And they turned and went up on the way that leads to Bashan; and Og the king of Bashan went out against them, he and all his people, for battle at Edrei.

- a. The kings defeated by God’s army signify the rulers, the authorities, and the world-rulers of darkness, against whom we must struggle—Eph. 6:12.

Eph 6:12 For our wrestling is not against blood and flesh but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the world-rulers of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenlies.

- b. In order for the children of Israel to enter into the good land, they had to pass through the territory controlled by these kings and had to fight against them, destroy them, and take over their territory.

2. In order to gain the unsearchable riches of Christ, we must crush the spiritual enemies signified by the king of Arad, Sihon the king of the Amorites, and Og the king of Bashan and take over their territory—3:8; 6:10-12.

Eph 3:8 To me, less than the least of all saints, was this grace given to announce to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ as the gospel

Eph 6:10 Finally, be empowered in the Lord and in the might of His strength.

Eph 6:11 Put on the whole armor of God that you may be able to stand against the stratagems of the devil,

Eph 6:12 For our wrestling is not against blood and flesh but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the world-rulers of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenlies.

- D. The fighting of the children of Israel against the Canaanites that they might possess and enjoy the good land portrays the invisible spiritual warfare that is taking place behind the visible scene on earth, and it typifies the spiritual warfare of the church against “the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenlies”—Dan. 10:10-21; Eph. 6:10-12:

Dan 10:10 And at that moment a hand touched me and sent me trembling on my knees and the palms of my hands.

Dan 10:11 And he said to me, Daniel, man of preciousness, understand the words that I am about to tell you and stand in your place, for I have now been sent to you. And when he had spoken this word to me, I stood up trembling.

- Dan 10:12 And he said to me, Do not be afraid, Daniel, for from the first day that you set your heart to understand this matter and to afflict yourself before your God, your words were heard; and I have come because of your words.
- Dan 10:13 But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me for twenty-one days; but now Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, for I remained there alone with the kings of Persia.
- Dan 10:14 Thus I have come to make you understand what will happen to your people in the last days, yet the vision pertains to something many days from now.
- Dan 10:15 And when he had spoken to me according to these words, I turned my face to the ground and was dumb.
- Dan 10:16 And at that moment one who resembled the sons of men touched my lips; and I opened my mouth and spoke, and I said to him who stood before me, Sir, because of the vision my anguish has turned upon me, and I have retained no strength.
- Dan 10:17 For how can such a servant of my lord speak with such as my lord? For as for me, just now there is no strength in me, nor has there been breath left in me.
- Dan 10:18 Then the one who was in appearance like a man touched me again and strengthened me;
- Dan 10:19 And he said, Do not be afraid, man of preciousness. Peace to you. Be strong, yes, be strong. And when he spoke to me, I received strength and said, Speak, sir, for you have strengthened me.
- Dan 10:20 Then he said, Do you know why I have come to you? And now I will return to fight with the prince of Persia; so I go forth, and the prince of Javan is now about to come.
- Dan 10:21 However I will tell you what is inscribed in the writing of truth. Yet there is no one who holds strongly with me against these ones except Michael your prince.
- Eph 6:10 Finally, be empowered in the Lord and in the might of His strength.
- Eph 6:11 Put on the whole armor of God that you may be able to stand against the stratagems of the devil,
- Eph 6:12 For our wrestling is not against blood and flesh but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the world-rulers of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenlies.

1. In the typology of the Old Testament, Canaan has two aspects:
 - a. On the positive side, Canaan, a land of riches (Deut. 8:7-10), typifies the all-inclusive Christ with His unsearchable riches (Col. 1:12; Eph. 3:8).

Deut 8:7 For Jehovah your God is bringing you to a good land, a land of waterbrooks, of springs and of fountains, flowing forth in valleys and in mountains;

Deut 8:8 A land of wheat and barley and vines and fig trees and pomegranates; a land of olive trees with oil and of honey;

Deut 8:9 A land in which you will eat bread without scarcity; you will not lack anything in it; a land whose stones are iron, and from whose mountains you can mine copper.

Deut 8:10 And you shall eat and be satisfied, and you shall bless Jehovah your God for the good land which He has given you.

Col 1:12 Giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you for a share of the allotted portion of the saints in the light;

Eph 3:8 To me, less than the least of all saints, was this grace given to announce to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ as the gospel
 - b. On the negative side, Canaan signifies the aerial part, the heavenly part, of the dark kingdom of Satan:
 - 1) As the ruler of this world (John 12:31) and as the ruler of the authority of the air (Eph. 2:2), Satan has his authority (Acts 26:18) and his angels (Matt. 25:41), who are his subordinates as principalities, powers, and rulers of the darkness of this world (Eph. 6:12); hence, Satan has his kingdom (Matt. 12:26), the authority of darkness (Col. 1:13).

John 12:31 Now is the judgment of this world; now shall the ruler of this world be cast out.

- Eph 2:2 In which you once walked according to the age of this world, according to the ruler of the authority of the air, of the spirit which is now operating in the sons of disobedience;
- Acts 26:18 To open their eyes, to turn them from darkness to light and from the authority of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who have been sanctified by faith in Me.
- Matt 25:41 Then He will say also to those on the left, Go away from Me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels.
- Eph 6:12 For our wrestling is not against blood and flesh but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the world-rulers of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenlies.
- Matt 12:26 And if Satan casts out Satan, he is divided against himself. How then will his kingdom stand?
- Col 1:13 Who delivered us out of the authority of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of the Son of His love,
- 2) The Canaanites typify the fallen angels, the rebellious angels who follow Satan (Rev. 12:4, 7), who have become the powers, rulers, and authorities in Satan's kingdom (cf. Dan. 10:13, 20).
- Rev 12:4 And his tail drags away the third part of the stars of heaven, and he cast them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was about to bring forth, so that when she brings forth he might devour her child.
- Rev 12:7 And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels went to war with the dragon. And the dragon warred and his angels.
- Dan 10:13 But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me for twenty-one days; but now Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, for I remained there alone with the kings of Persia.
- Dan 10:20 Then he said, Do you know why I have come to you? And now I will return to fight with the prince of Persia; so I go forth, and the prince of Javan is now about to come.
- 3) The fighting of the children of Israel against the Canaanites that they might possess and enjoy the good land typifies the spiritual warfare of the church against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenlies so that the saints may enjoy Christ as the all-inclusive land—Eph. 6:12.
- Eph 6:12 For our wrestling is not against blood and flesh but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the world-rulers of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenlies.
2. God wants us to gain Christ as our good land, but between us and the good land, there is a layer of devilish, demonic forces; if we would take possession of the good land, we must defeat these satanic forces—Col. 1:12-13; 2:15; Eph. 3:18; 6:10-12.
- Col 1:12 Giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you for a share of the allotted portion of the saints in the light;
- Col 1:13 Who delivered us out of the authority of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of the Son of His love,
- Col 2:15 Stripping off the rulers and the authorities, He made a display of them openly, triumphing over them in it.
- Eph 3:18 May be full of strength to apprehend with all the saints what the breadth and length and height and depth are
- Eph 6:10 Finally, be empowered in the Lord and in the might of His strength.
- Eph 6:11 Put on the whole armor of God that you may be able to stand against the stratagems of the devil,
- Eph 6:12 For our wrestling is not against blood and flesh but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the world-rulers of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenlies.

3. There is an exceedingly real spiritual warfare in which we must engage; thus, the church must be a corporate warrior fighting the battle to gain the all-inclusive Christ and for the establishing and spreading of the kingdom of God so that Christ may come back to inherit the earth—vv. 10-19.

Eph 6:10 Finally, be empowered in the Lord and in the might of His strength.

Eph 6:11 Put on the whole armor of God that you may be able to stand against the stratagems of the devil,

Eph 6:12 For our wrestling is not against blood and flesh but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the world-rulers of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenlies.

Eph 6:13 Therefore take up the whole armor of God that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

Eph 6:14 Stand therefore, having girded your loins with truth and having put on the breastplate of righteousness

Eph 6:15 And having shod your feet with the firm foundation of the gospel of peace;

Eph 6:16 Besides all these, having taken up the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming darts of the evil one.

Eph 6:17 And receive the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which Spirit is the word of God,

Eph 6:18 By means of all prayer and petition, praying at every time in spirit and watching unto this in all perseverance and petition concerning all the saints,

Eph 6:19 And for me, that utterance may be given to me in the opening of my mouth, to make known in boldness the mystery of the gospel,

- E. The Lord Jesus has already won the battle, and the work of the church on earth is to maintain Christ's victory—Heb. 2:14; Col. 2:15; 1 John 3:8:

Heb 2:14 Since therefore the children have shared in blood and flesh, He also Himself in like manner partook of the same, that through death He might destroy him who has the might of death, that is, the devil,

Col 2:15 Stripping off the rulers and the authorities, He made a display of them openly, triumphing over them in it.

1 John 3:8 He who practices sin is of the devil, because the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil.

1. The Son of God was manifested to destroy the works of the devil—v. 8.

1 John 3:8 He who practices sin is of the devil, because the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil.

2. As a man, Christ defeated Satan during the temptation in the wilderness—Matt. 4:1-11.

Matt 4:1 Then Jesus was led up into the wilderness by the Spirit to be tempted by the devil.

Matt 4:2 And when He had fasted forty days and forty nights, afterward He became hungry.

Matt 4:3 And the tempter came and said to Him, If You are the Son of God, speak that these stones may become loaves of bread.

Matt 4:4 But He answered and said, It is written, "Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that proceeds out through the mouth of God."

Matt 4:5 Then the devil took Him into the holy city and set Him on the wing of the temple,

Matt 4:6 And said to Him, If You are the Son of God, cast Yourself down; for it is written, "To His angels He shall give charge concerning You, and on their hands they shall bear You up, lest You strike Your foot against a stone."

Matt 4:7 Jesus said to him, Again, it is written, "You shall not test the Lord your God."

Matt 4:8 Again, the devil took Him to a very high mountain and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory.

Matt 4:9 And he said to Him, All these will I give You if You will fall down and worship me.

Matt 4:10 Then Jesus said to him, Go away, Satan! For it is written, "You shall worship the Lord your God, and Him only shall you serve."

Matt 4:11 Then the devil left Him, and behold, angels came and ministered to Him.

3. Through death the Lord Jesus destroyed the devil, who has the might of death, abolishing Satan and bringing him to nought—Heb. 2:14; 1 Cor. 1:28.
 - Heb 2:14 Since therefore the children have shared in blood and flesh, He also Himself in like manner partook of the same, that through death He might destroy him who has the might of death, that is, the devil,
 - 1 Cor 1:28 And the lowborn things of the world and the despised things God has chosen, things which are not, that He might bring to nought the things which are,
 4. God openly shamed the evil angels, triumphing over them in the cross of Christ—Col. 2:15.
 - Col 2:15 Stripping off the rulers and the authorities, He made a display of them openly, triumphing over them in it.
 5. The effect of Christ's crucifixion was that the base of Satan's rebellion was shaken, that the strongholds of Satan's earthly kingdom were broken, and that the power of death and Hades was conquered and subdued—Matt. 27:51-52.
 - Matt 27:51 And behold, the veil of the temple was split in two from top to bottom, and the earth was shaken and the rocks were split,
 - Matt 27:52 And the tombs were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised.
 6. In the Spirit of His divinity, Christ proclaimed to the evil spirits in the abyss His victory over Satan on the cross—1 Pet. 3:18-19.
 - 1 Pet 3:18 For Christ also has suffered once for sins, the Righteous on behalf of the unrighteous, that He might bring you to God, on the one hand being put to death in the flesh, but on the other, made alive in the spirit;
 - 1 Pet 3:19 In which also He went and proclaimed to the spirits in prison,
 7. The overcomers, the mighty ones, realize that spiritual warfare is based on the victory of Christ—Joel 3:11b; John 12:31; Rev. 5:5:
 - Joel 3:11b ...There cause Your mighty ones to descend, O Jehovah!
 - John 12:31 Now is the judgment of this world; now shall the ruler of this world be cast out.
 - Rev 5:5 And one of the elders said to me, Do not weep; behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has overcome so that He may open the scroll and its seven seals.
 - a. The starting point of spiritual warfare is standing upon the victory of Christ—Eph. 6:11, 13.
 - Eph 6:11 Put on the whole armor of God that you may be able to stand against the stratagems of the devil,
 - Eph 6:13 Therefore take up the whole armor of God that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.
 - b. We need to see that Christ has already overcome—Rev. 3:21.
 - Rev 3:21 He who overcomes, to him I will give to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat with My Father on His throne.
 8. The church is on earth to perpetuate and manifest Christ's victory over Satan—Eph. 6:13; Rev. 12:11.
 - Eph 6:13 Therefore take up the whole armor of God that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.
 - Rev 12:11 And they overcame him because of the blood of the Lamb and because of the word of their testimony, and they loved not their soul-life even unto death.
- F. In order to engage in spiritual warfare, we need to know the Body, know the ascension, and reign in life—Eph. 1:22-23; 2:6; 4:16; Col. 3:1-4; Rom. 5:17, 21.
- Eph 1:22 And He subjected all things under His feet and gave Him to be Head over all things to the church,
 - Eph 1:23 Which is His Body, the fullness of the One who fills all in all.
 - Eph 2:6 And raised us up together with Him and seated us together with Him in the heavenlies in Christ Jesus,
 - Eph 4:16 Out from whom all the Body, being joined together and being knit together through every joint of the rich supply and through the operation in the measure of each one part, causes the growth of the Body unto the building up of itself in love.

- Col 3:1 If therefore you were raised together with Christ, seek the things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God.
- Col 3:2 Set your mind on the things which are above, not on the things which are on the earth.
- Col 3:3 For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.
- Col 3:4 When Christ our life is manifested, then you also will be manifested with Him in glory.
- Rom 5:17 For if, by the offense of the one, death reigned through the one, much more those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.
- Rom 5:21 In order that just as sin reigned in death, so also grace might reign through righteousness unto eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

II. At the end of Numbers 27, God’s people, the Israelites, had been formed into an army ready for battle:

Num 27 be omitted.

A. The children of Israel had become a new people formed into a new army with a new theocracy—vv. 12-23:

- Num 27:12 And Jehovah said to Moses, Go up to this mountain of the Abarim and see the land which I have given to the children of Israel.
- Num 27:13 And when you have seen it, you also shall be gathered to your people, just as Aaron your brother was gathered,
- Num 27:14 Because you rebelled against My word in the wilderness of Zin, in the strife of the assembly, and failed to sanctify Me at the waters before their eyes. (These are the waters of Meribah-kadesh, in the wilderness of Zin.)
- Num 27:15 And Moses spoke to Jehovah, saying,
- Num 27:16 Let Jehovah, the God of the spirits of all flesh, appoint a man over the assembly,
- Num 27:17 Who will go out before them and who will come in before them, and who will lead them out and who will bring them in; so that the assembly of Jehovah will not be like sheep which have no shepherd.
- Num 27:18 And Jehovah said to Moses, Take Joshua the son of Nun, a man in whom is the Spirit, and lay your hand upon him;
- Num 27:19 And set him before Eleazar the priest and before the whole assembly, and give him a charge in their sight.
- Num 27:20 And you shall put some of your honor upon him, so that the whole assembly of the children of Israel may obey him.
- Num 27:21 And he shall stand before Eleazar the priest, and he shall inquire for him by the judgment of the Urim before Jehovah. At his word shall they go out and at his word they shall come in, both he and all the children of Israel with him, even the whole assembly.
- Num 27:22 And Moses did as Jehovah commanded him, and he took Joshua and set him before Eleazar the priest and before the whole assembly.
- Num 27:23 And he laid his hands upon him and gave him a charge just as Jehovah had spoken through Moses.

1. The new people had been renumbered, the new army had been re-formed and strengthened, and a new leader, Joshua, had been appointed to serve.
2. Joshua would serve not by himself but with Eleazar the priest, who would receive divine instructions by means of the Urim and the Thummim; this means that there was among the people a new theocracy—vv. 19-21.

- Num 27:19 And set him before Eleazar the priest and before the whole assembly, and give him a charge in their sight.
- Num 27:20 And you shall put some of your honor upon him, so that the whole assembly of the children of Israel may obey him.
- Num 27:21 And he shall stand before Eleazar the priest, and he shall inquire for him by the judgment of the Urim before Jehovah. At his word shall they go out and at his word they shall come in, both he and all the children of Israel with him, even the whole assembly.

B. After being formed, constituted, disciplined, trained, and qualified, God’s people had come

to the plains of Moab, where they were waiting to enter into the good land, to take it, and to possess it—36:13.

Num 36:13 These are the commandments and the ordinances which Jehovah commanded through Moses to the children of Israel in the plains of Moab by the Jordan at Jericho.

- C. The formation of the children of Israel into an army to fight for God typifies the New Testament believers' being built up into the organic Body of Christ to fight for God and with God for the carrying out of His economy—Eph. 4:16; 6:12.

Eph 4:16 Out from whom all the Body, being joined together and being knit together through every joint of the rich supply and through the operation in the measure of each one part, causes the growth of the Body unto the building up of itself in love.

Eph 6:12 For our wrestling is not against blood and flesh but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the world-rulers of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenlies.

- D. With the exception of Joshua and Caleb, those who were qualified and ready to take possession of the good land were the younger ones—Deut. 1:35-36; Num. 14:31:

Deut 1:35 Not one of these men, this evil generation, shall by any means see the good land which I have sworn to give to your fathers,

Deut 1:36 Except Caleb the son of Jephunneh; he shall see it. And to him I will give the land on which he has trodden, and to his children, because he has fully followed Jehovah.

Num 14:31 But your little ones, whom you said would become plunder, I will bring in, and they will know the land which you have rejected.

1. The second generation did not pass through as much as the first generation did, but they received the benefit of what the first generation experienced—26:63-65.

Num 26:63 These are those who were numbered by Moses and Eleazar the priest, who numbered the children of Israel in the plains of Moab by the Jordan at Jericho.

Num 26:64 But among these there was not one of those numbered by Moses and Aaron the priest, who had numbered the children of Israel in the wilderness of Sinai.

Num 26:65 For Jehovah had said of them, They shall surely die in the wilderness. And not one of them was left, except Caleb the son of Jephunneh and Joshua the son of Nun.

2. Probably the older generation spoke to the younger generation about all that they experienced, enjoyed, and suffered, and this speaking was part of the raising up of the second generation.

3. What the older ones experienced was effective in building up the younger ones; therefore, God could prepare from the second generation more than six hundred thousand men with a rich inheritance and strong background who were qualified to be formed into an army to fight for God's kingdom.

4. The principle is the same with us in the Lord's recovery today; what the older ones have experienced is being passed on to the younger ones and will be very effective in building them up and preparing them to fight with God and for God.

- E. In Numbers 31:13-54 we see a beautiful picture of the one accord among God's people who had been formed into an army ready for battle—v. 31:

Num 31:13 And Moses and Eleazar the priest and all the leaders of the assembly went out to meet them outside the camp.

Num 31:14 And Moses became angry with the officers of the company, the captains of thousands and the captains of hundreds, who came from service in the war.

Num 31:15 And Moses said to them, Have you kept all the women alive?

Num 31:16 It was these who caused the children of Israel, through the counsel of Balaam, to act unfaithfully against Jehovah in the matter of Peor, so that the plague came upon the assembly of Jehovah.

Num 31:17 Now therefore kill every male among the little ones, and kill every woman who has known a man by lying with him.

Num 31:18 But all the little ones among the women, who have not known a male by lying with him, keep alive for yourselves.

- Num 31:19 And you, encamp outside the camp seven days, everyone who has killed any person and everyone who has touched any slain; purify yourselves on the third day and on the seventh day, you and your captives.
- Num 31:20 And you shall purify for yourselves every garment and every article of skin and everything made of goats' hair and every article of wood.
- Num 31:21 And Eleazar the priest said to the men of war who had gone to the battle, This is the statute of the law which Jehovah has commanded Moses:
- Num 31:22 Only the gold and the silver, the bronze, the iron, the tin, and the lead,
- Num 31:23 Everything that can go into the fire, you shall pass through the fire, and it will become clean; but it shall be purified with the water for impurity; and everything that cannot go into the fire you shall pass through the water.
- Num 31:24 And you shall wash your clothes on the seventh day, and you shall be clean; and afterward you may come into the camp.
- Num 31:25 Then Jehovah spoke to Moses, saying,
- Num 31:26 You and Eleazar the priest and the heads of the fathers' households of the assembly, take the sum of the booty that was captured, both of man and of beast,
- Num 31:27 And halve the booty between those skilled in war who went out to battle and the whole assembly.
- Num 31:28 And levy a tribute to Jehovah from the men of war who went out to battle: one living thing out of five hundred, of the persons and of the cattle and of the donkeys and of the flock;
- Num 31:29 Take it from their half and give it to Eleazar the priest, for Jehovah's heave offering.
- Num 31:30 And of the children of Israel's half, you shall take one seized out of fifty, of the persons, of the cattle, of the donkeys, and of the flocks, from all the beasts, and give them to the Levites, who keep the charge of the tabernacle of Jehovah.
- Num 31:31 And Moses and Eleazar the priest did just as Jehovah commanded Moses.
- Num 31:32 Now the booty that was left from the spoil, which the men of war had taken, was six hundred seventy-five thousand sheep,
- Num 31:33 And seventy-two thousand cattle,
- Num 31:34 And sixty-one thousand donkeys,
- Num 31:35 And thirty-two thousand persons in all, the women who had not known lying with a male.
- Num 31:36 And the half which was the portion of those who went out to war was in number three hundred thirty-seven thousand five hundred sheep.
- Num 31:37 And Jehovah's tribute of the sheep was six hundred seventy-five.
- Num 31:38 And the cattle were thirty-six thousand, of which Jehovah's tribute was seventy-two.
- Num 31:39 And the donkeys were thirty thousand five hundred, of which Jehovah's tribute was sixty-one.
- Num 31:40 And the human beings were sixteen thousand, of whom Jehovah's tribute was thirty-two persons.
- Num 31:41 And Moses gave the tribute, Jehovah's heave offering, to Eleazar the priest, just as Jehovah had commanded Moses.
- Num 31:42 And of the children of Israel's half, which Moses had separated from the men who had gone to war,
- Num 31:43 That is, the assembly's half, was three hundred thirty-seven thousand five hundred sheep,
- Num 31:44 And thirty-six thousand cattle,
- Num 31:45 And thirty thousand five hundred donkeys,
- Num 31:46 And sixteen thousand persons -
- Num 31:47 Now Moses took from the children of Israel's half, one drawn out of every fifty, both of man and of beast, and gave them to the Levites, who kept the charge of the tabernacle of Jehovah, just as Jehovah had commanded Moses.
- Num 31:48 And the officers who were over the thousands of the army, the captains of thousands and the captains of hundreds, approached Moses.
- Num 31:49 And they said to Moses, Your servants have taken the sum of the men of war who are under our charge, and not a man is missing from us;
- Num 31:50 And we have presented Jehovah's offering, what every man has obtained, articles of gold, armlets and bracelets, signet rings, earrings and pendants, to make expiation for our souls before Jehovah.

- Num 31:51 And Moses and Eleazar the priest took the gold from them, all kinds of wrought articles.
- Num 31:52 And all the gold of the heave offering which they offered up to Jehovah, from the captains of thousands and from the captains of hundreds, was sixteen thousand seven hundred fifty shekels.
- Num 31:53 The men of war had taken booty, each for himself.
- Num 31:54 So Moses and Eleazar the priest took the gold from the captains of thousands and of hundreds, and brought it into the Tent of Meeting as a memorial for the children of Israel before Jehovah.
1. The entire situation among the different categories of people was peaceful, pleasant, and harmonious because they were all in one accord—Acts 1:14.

Acts 1:14 These all continued steadfastly with one accord in prayer, together with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His brothers.
 2. The genuine one accord in the church is the practice of the oneness of the Body, which is the oneness of the Spirit—Eph. 4:3-6:

Eph 4:3 Being diligent to keep the oneness of the Spirit in the uniting bond of peace:
 Eph 4:4 One Body and one Spirit, even as also you were called in one hope of your calling;
 Eph 4:5 One Lord, one faith, one baptism;
 Eph 4:6 One God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

 - a. *One accord* refers to the harmony in our inner being, in our mind and will—Acts 1:14; Matt. 18:19.

Acts 1:14 These all continued steadfastly with one accord in prayer, together with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His brothers.

Matt 18:19 Again, truly I say to you that if two of you are in harmony on earth concerning any matter for which they ask, it will be done for them from My Father who is in the heavens.
 - b. To be in one accord is to be one in our whole being, and this results in our being one in our outward speaking—Rom. 15:5-6.

Rom 15:5 Now the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to be of the same mind toward one another according to Christ Jesus,
 Rom 15:6 That with one accord you may with one mouth glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.
 - c. In order to be in one accord, we need to have one heart and one way; this one heart and one way are the one accord—Jer. 32:39.

Jer 32:39 And I will give them one heart and one way, to fear Me all the days, for their own good and for the good of their children after them.
 - d. For the Lord's move, all the churches need to be in one accord; we should all voice the same thing, trumpet the same thing, teach the same thing, and be the same in practice—Josh. 1:16-18; 6:1-16; Acts 2:42; 4:24, 32; 1 Cor. 4:17; 7:17; 11:16; 14:33b-34; 1 Tim. 1:3-4; 6:3.

Josh 1:16 And they answered Joshua, saying, All that you have commanded us we will do, and wherever you send us we will go.
 Josh 1:17 As in all things we listened to Moses, so we will listen to you. Only may Jehovah your God be with you, as He was with Moses.
 Josh 1:18 Any man who rebels against your command or does not listen to your words in all that you command him, let him be put to death. Only be strong and take courage.
 Josh 6:1 Now Jericho was shut up so tight because of the children of Israel that no one went out and no one went in.
 Josh 6:2 And Jehovah said to Joshua, See, I have given Jericho and its king and the mighty men of valor into your hand.
 Josh 6:3 And you shall circle the city, all the men of valor, going around the city one time. Thus shall you do for six days.
 Josh 6:4 And seven priests shall carry seven trumpets of rams' horns before the Ark. Then on the seventh day you shall circle the city seven times, and the priests shall blow the trumpets.

Josh 6:5 And when they give off the blast of the ram's horn and you hear the trumpet sound, all the people shall shout with a great shout. And the wall of the city will fall down flat, and the people shall go up, each straight ahead.

Josh 6:6 So Joshua the son of Nun called the priests and said to them, Take up the Ark of the Covenant, and let seven priests carry seven trumpets of rams' horns before the Ark of Jehovah.

Josh 6:7 And he said to the people, Pass on and circle the city, and let the armed men pass on before the Ark of Jehovah.

Josh 6:8 Then when Joshua had spoken to the people, the seven priests carrying the seven trumpets of rams' horns before Jehovah passed on and blew the trumpets; and the Ark of the Covenant of Jehovah went after them.

Josh 6:9 And the armed men went before the priests who blew the trumpets; and the rearguard went after the Ark, the trumpets continually blowing.

Josh 6:10 And Joshua commanded the people, saying, You shall not shout, nor let your voice be heard, nor let a word go forth from your mouth, until the day I say to you, Shout! Then you shall shout.

Josh 6:11 So he had the Ark of Jehovah circle the city, going around it one time. And they came into the camp and lodged in the camp.

Josh 6:12 And Joshua rose early in the morning, and the priests took up the Ark of Jehovah.

Josh 6:13 And the seven priests carrying the seven trumpets of rams' horns went before the Ark of Jehovah, continually blowing the trumpets; and the armed men went before them, and the rearguard went after the Ark of Jehovah, the trumpets continually blowing.

Josh 6:14 And they circled the city on the second day one time and returned to the camp. This they did for six days.

Josh 6:15 Then on the seventh day they rose early, at the break of dawn, and circled the city in the same manner seven times. Only on that day did they circle the city seven times.

Josh 6:16 And at the seventh time the priests blew the trumpets, and Joshua said to the people, Shout! For Jehovah has given you the city.

Acts 2:42 And they continued steadfastly in the teaching and the fellowship of the apostles, in the breaking of bread and the prayers.

Acts 4:24 And when they heard this, they lifted up their voice with one accord to God and said, Sovereign Master, You are the One who has made heaven and earth and the sea and all things in them,

Acts 4:32 And the heart and soul of the multitude of those who had believed was one; and not even one said that any of his possessions was his own, but all things were common to them.

1 Cor 4:17 Because of this I have sent Timothy to you, who is my beloved and faithful child in the Lord, who will remind you of my ways which are in Christ, even as I teach everywhere in every church.

1 Cor 7:17 However as the Lord has apportioned to each one, as God has called each one, so let him walk. And so I direct in all the churches.

1 Cor 11:16 But if anyone seems to be contentious, we do not have such a custom of being so, neither the churches of God.

1 Cor 14:33b ... As in all the churches of the saints,

1 Cor 14:34 The women should be silent in the churches, for they are not permitted to speak; but they should be subject, even as the law also says.

1 Tim 1:3 Even as I exhorted you, when I was going into Macedonia, to remain in Ephesus in order that you might charge certain ones not to teach different things

1 Tim 1:4 Nor to give heed to myths and unending genealogies, which produce questionings rather than God's economy, which is in faith.

1 Tim 6:3 If anyone teaches different things and does not consent to healthy words, those of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the teaching which is according to godliness,

- F. God's army was prepared and ready to take the good land under the blessing of God in His Divine Trinity and also under the blessing of Moses, the man of God—Num. 6:22-27; 2 Cor. 13:14; Deut. 30:16; 33:1.
- Num 6:22 Then Jehovah spoke to Moses, saying,
 Num 6:23 Speak to Aaron and to his sons, saying, Thus you shall bless the children of Israel; you shall say to them,
 Num 6:24 Jehovah bless you and keep you;
 Num 6:25 Jehovah make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you;
 Num 6:26 Jehovah lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.
 Num 6:27 So shall they put My name upon the children of Israel, that I Myself may bless them.
 2 Cor 13:14 The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- Deut 30:16 If you obey the commandments of Jehovah your God, which I am commanding you today, to love Jehovah your God and walk in His ways and keep His commandments and His statutes and His ordinances, then you will live and multiply, and Jehovah your God will bless you in the land which you are entering to possess.
- Deut 33:1 And this is the blessing with which Moses, the man of God, blessed the children of Israel before his death.