

YHWH Fights for You

Commentary for September 1, 2015 — David Believed God for Salvation and Victory

"Israel and Judah: 12. David's Special Song" is the title of the article for September 2015. Read first the "[September 2015 Newsletter](#)" which has information about new developments on the ASK website.

The majority of the article this month has to do with a long song in 2 Samuel chapter 22 and Psalm 18 of David. One important aspect of this song/psalm is King David's continual trust in God to repeatedly give him and Israel victory in battle. Time after time YHWH actively fought on their behalf, and David was continually grateful. The song/psalm was one way David showed his love and appreciation to God.

YHWH Offered to Fight for Israel in Moses' Time

After Israel crossed the Red Sea, the Egyptian army marched to attack.

"And Moses said unto the people, 'Fear you not, stand still, and see the salvation of YHWH, which he will show to you to day: for the Egyptians whom you have seen to day, you shall see them again no more for ever [for the eon]. YHWH SHALL FIGHT FOR YOU, ...'"

• *Exodus 14:13–14*

"... they drove them heavily: so that the Egyptians said, 'Let us flee from the face of Israel; for YHWH FIGHTS FOR THEM against the Egyptians.'"

Exodus 14:25

Later, YHWH said He would dispossess the people living in the land promised to Abraham and his descendants Israel. They did not listen or believe what YHWH said. Israel rejected God's offer (YHWH's promise!) to fight for them (Numbers 13:1–14:25). God made them dispossess and kill the people to take possession of the land.

The Book of Deuteronomy is Moses' review of events experienced by Israel from their time in Egypt before the Exodus to when Israel prepared to enter the Promised Land. Israel's disbelief led God to impose upon them 40 years of wandering in the wilderness.

"Then I said unto you, 'Dread not, neither be afraid of them. YHWH your God which goes before you, HE SHALL FIGHT FOR YOU, according to [just as] all that he did for you in Egypt before your eyes; And in the wilderness, where you have seen how that YHWH your God bore you, ... until you came into this place. Yet in this thing you did not believe YHWH your God.'"

• *Deuteronomy 1:29–32*

"You shall not fear them: for YHWH your God HE SHALL FIGHT FOR YOU."

• *Deuteronomy 3:22*

Later in Deuteronomy, Moses repeated that YHWH would be with Israel when they fought their enemies — conditional upon their obedience to God's covenant.

“When you go out to battle against your enemies ... be not afraid of them: for **YHWH your God is with you**, which brought you up out of the land of Egypt. ... YHWH ... goes with you, **TO FIGHT FOR YOU AGAINST YOUR ENEMIES**, ...”

• *Deuteronomy 20:1, 4*

YHWH made the same promise to Joshua, Moses' successor:

“And all these kings and their land did Joshua take at one time, because **YHWH GOD OF ISRAEL FOUGHT FOR ISRAEL**.”

• *Joshua 10:42*

“And you have seen all that YHWH your God has done unto all these nations because of you; for **YHWH your God is HE THAT HAS FOUGHT FOR YOU**. ...

One man of you shall chase a thousand: for YHWH your God, **HE IT IS THAT FIGHTS FOR YOU**, as he has promised you.”

• *Joshua 23:3, 10*

YHWH Fights for David and Israel

The entire message of this month's article “David's Special Song” tells how YHWH saved David several times, and at one time in particular: “... **YHWH delivered him from the hand of all his enemies**” (Psalm 18:1). From the time of David's first combat with Goliath, David trusted God (1 Samuel 17:45–46). David continually trusted God, even after he sinned and repented. As King of Israel he continued to expect God's love, guidance, and protection throughout his life. “**YHWH of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. Selah**” (Psalm 46:11).

After David

King Asa of Judah before a massive battle:

“cried unto YHWH his God, and said, ... ‘O YHWH our God; for **we rest on you, and in your name we go against this multitude. O YHWH, you are our God; let not man prevail against you.**’ So **YHWH smote the Ethiopians before Asa, and before Judah; and the Ethiopians fled.**”

• *2 Chronicles 14:11–12*

God told Jehoshaphat, Asa's son, the same thing (2 Chronicles 20:15, 17), with the result that Judah's army did not even have to lift a sword against their enemies. In the time of King Hezekiah and Isaiah, God promised to fight for Israel — if they believed Him (2 Chronicles 32:8; Isaiah 8:9–10). After Israel's return from Babylon, Nehemiah told the people, “**our God shall fight for us**” (Nehemiah 4:20).

Today, we engage in a different kind of combat, against principalities and powers (Ephesians 6:12–18). God still fights for us and helps us prevail.

“What shall we then say to these things? **If God be for us, who can be against us? ... Nay, in all these things WE ARE MORE THAN CONQUERORS THROUGH HIM that loved us.**”

• *Romans 8:31, 37*

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