



FRANKLIN ROAD

baptist church

51 North Franklin Road • Indianapolis, IN 46219 • 317.897.1298

WRITE IT DOWN



WE OFTEN WRITE DOWN THE THINGS WE WANT TO REMEMBER. IF WE REALLY WANT TO REMEMBER WE WRITE THINGS IN SPECIAL BOOKS OR EVEN IN STONE. OUR NATION HAS OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS AND MONUMENTS TO REMEMBER THOSE WHO'VE SERVED US WELL. ON THIS MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND, WE'VE HAD SPECIAL COMMEMORATIONS FOR THOSE WHO FOUGHT OUR BATTLES AND FOR OUR LOVED ONES NO LONGER WITH US. IT'S IMPORTANT THAT WE REMEMBER.

IN EXODUS 17:14 THE LORD GOD TOLD MOSES TO "WRITE THIS IN A BOOK AS A MEMORIAL TO RECITE IT TO JOSHUA . . .". GOD WANTED ISRAEL'S FIRST NATIONAL BATTLE RECORDED, REMEMBERED AND RECITED. WHAT WERE THEY TO REMEMBER?

THEY WERE TO REMEMBER THEIR COMMANDER. WHEN THE AMALEKITES MOUNTED AN UNPROVOKED ATTACK ON GOD'S PEOPLE, MOSES APPOINTED JOSHUA AS THE LEADER OF A MAKE-SHIFT ARMY. EXODUS 17:13 TELLS US THAT "JOSHUA OVERWHELMED AMALEK AND HIS PEOPLE." IT WAS IMPORTANT THAT JOSHUA BE HONORED FOR ASSISTING IN THIS FIGHT AGAINST GOD'S ENEMIES.

THEY WERE ALSO TO REMEMBER THEIR INTERCESSOR. IT WAS DURING THIS BATTLE THAT MOSES WENT UP TO A HILL OVERLOOKING THE BATTLEFIELD AND LIFTED HIS HANDS TO GOD. AS LONG AS HIS HANDS WERE UP ISRAEL WAS WINNING BUT WHEN THEY WERE DOWN, THEY WERE LOSING. THROUGHOUT THAT DAY MOSES KEPT HIS HANDS UP WITH THE AID OF AARON AND HUR. THOUGH MOSES WAS NOT ACTUALLY FIGHTING THE PHYSICAL WAR, HE WAS FIGHTING ON THE SPIRITUAL FRONT.

THEY NEEDED TO REMEMBER THEIR ENEMY. THOUGH THE AMALEKITES WERE BEATEN BY JOSHUA, THEY WERE NOT DESTROYED. HOWEVER, GOD WANTED THEM TO KNOW THAT EVENTUALLY HE WOULD "UTTERLY BLOT OUT THE MEMORY OF AMALEK FROM UNDER HEAVEN." (EXODUS 17:14B). THE ALMIGHTY REPEATED THAT THREAT AGAIN IN NUMBERS 24:20 AND DEUTERONOMY 25:19 AND ULTIMATELY BROUGHT IT TO PASS IN 1 SAMUEL 15.

THEN TOO, THEY NEEDED TO REMEMBER THEIR DELIVERER. IMMEDIATELY AFTER GOD'S COMMAND FOR MOSES TO WRITE THIS DOWN, MOSES BUILT AN ALTAR AND NAMED IT JEHOVAH NISSI, "THE LORD IS MY BANNER." THOUGH JOSHUA WON ON THE BATTLEFIELD AND MOSES WON ON THE SPIRITUAL FIELD, IT WAS GOD WHO GAVE THEM THE VICTORY. IT WAS TO JEHOVAH GOD THAT THEY OWED THEIR ALLEGIANCE. THEY WOULD MOVE THROUGHOUT THE WILDERNESS AND INTO THE PROMISED LAND BENEATH GOD'S FLAG.

THIS MEMORIAL DAY, I HOPE YOU'VE REMEMBERED COMMANDERS, INTERCESSORS AND DEFEATED FOES, BUT MOST OF ALL GIVEN THOUGHT AND OFFERED THANKS TO THE GOD WHO DELIVERS.

LOOKING UP!

PASTOR CHUCK CIRCLE