

our guard toward it. And we have to be prepared to defend ourselves and to defend the people of God, against those who are by the sleight of man, by the cunning craftiness whereby they lie in wait to deceive. And so in this case, Moses said out to Joshua: Choose us/men and go out and fight with Amalek: to morrow I will stand on the top of the hill with the rod of God in mine hand. We know of course that had God/told Moses to do this. We are not told that he did, we ~~say~~ simply ~~say~~ this is what Moses said to Joshua. God may have told him specifically at that time. God may ~~say~~ during this long period that Moses had been acting as God's instrument, He may have taught him to know His will so well that he knew in this particular case that was what God desired him to do. But Joshua here was to choose out men who would go and fight with Amalek. It was not a complete understaking. The conflict against the forces of evil must never be the complete main thing in our lives. It is an important thing. It is a necessary thing. But he was to choose out men to do it. This was an attack in the rear. An attack that would demoralize and destroy the whole body if it was not stopped, and so a group of men was chosen to go out and Moses said he would stand with the ~~rod~~ rod of God in his hand on the top of the hill. And then we read in verse 11 this magical statement. What a magical story someone can make of this. Just a sort of a fairy story. Moses stands on a hill. Moses holds up his hands, and Israel wins and then Moses lets down his hands and Amalek rushes forward. How would Moses' hands going up or down have anything to do with whether Amalek was winning or whether Israel was winning? Wouldn't Moses' hand out there fighting be worth a hundred times more than Moses just standing up there and lifting his hands. But of course God simply gave it as a type, ~~an~~ as an example, as an illustration. As an illustration of the fact that God's presence was what made the difference. These men had to go out and fight to ~~their~~ their very utmost. God sometimes calls on us to sit still and see the victory that He will give. There are many cases where He does that. But ordinarily God causes us to step out and do our best. But our best is not enough