

## STAND IN AUTHORITY

**EXODUS 17:5-9** “And the Lord said to Moses, “Go on before the people, and take with you some of the elders of Israel. Also take in your hand your **rod** with which you struck the river, and go. <sup>6</sup> Behold, **I will stand before you there on the rock in Horeb**; and you shall strike the rock, and water will come out of it that the people may drink.” And Moses did so in the sight of the elders of Israel. <sup>7</sup> So he called the name of the place Massah and Meribah, because of the contention of the children of Israel, and because they tempted the Lord, saying, “Is the Lord among us or not?” <sup>8</sup> Now Amalek came and fought with Israel in Rephidim. <sup>9</sup> And Moses said to Joshua, “Choose us some men and go out, fight with Amalek. **Tomorrow I will stand on the top of the hill with the rod of God in my hand.**”

### AMPLIFICATION

Note: God commands Moses to specifically “take the **rod** in his hand” not any other item but the rod – this **points to the importance** of this particular object.

- Another word for the rod is a staff, a scepter - biblically a symbol of **authority, of ruling, leading, protection, of executing judgement, also a tribe or a branch.**
- **Note:** Moses does not go to the battlefield, instead he says, “I will **stand** on the top of the hill with the **rod of God** in my hand.”
- Moses says, the **rod of God** in my hand – NOT his rod – but the **rod of God** – it will be an error of judgement not to examine the significance of this instrument.
- It also interesting - God said “**I will stand before you there on the rock in Horeb**” God was going to on stand the rock that was going to be smitten by Moses – and God would give them water – **the water came from God.**
- Note: It is the instrument of **authority chosen by God** that was used for God to give them water. **Not that He is the respecter of man** – but because He **respects the principles he has given to men.**
- You know what happened in that battle with Amalekites “when Moses held up his hand, Israel prevailed; and when he let down his hand, Amalek prevailed”. The battle was won when Moses was able to stretch-out his hand with the staff.

## THE BIBLICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF STAND AND AUTHORITY

### 1. STAND

To stand does not just mean to be on your feet, and doing nothing - biblically speaking, and as understood from Hebrew to stand means to **confirm, establish, impose.**

- When Moses chose not to go to the battlefield, instead to **stand** on the top of the hill with the **rod** of God in his hand - He went there to **confirm** the victory, **to establish and to impose** it over the Amalekites.

- Meaning the war was **not won on the in the battlefield**, it was won before it even started.
- The Bible say we who are in Christ **are overcomers, are victorious**, meaning - victory has already been given to us (1Cor 15:57) "But thanks be to God, **who gives us the victory** through our Lord Jesus Christ."
- When we pray against attacks, **instead on lamenting and complaining about our situation** we **take a stand**, a principle confirming our victory in the name of Jesus, establish our victory in the name of Jesus and to imposing our victory in the name of Jesus.
- Remember the **victory was secured on the Cross of Calvary** - over every scheme and attack of our adversary – our **salvation and deliverance** was **secured on the Cross**.
- So, when we stand, we **enforce and impose the victory of the Cross**.

### That is why in his Epistles Apostle Paul encourages us to stand

- You can never protect what you have not standing – if you are not standing for something, you will fall for anything (Gal 5:1) "**Stand fast therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage.**"
- Stand fast, therefore - Be firm, unwavering and unyielding in maintaining the great principles of our liberty.
- And having done all, to stand (Eph 6:13) - this means **"having overcome all"** we are to plant our feet firmly on the rock, being **"steadfast and unmovable"**
- So when we stand we stand as conquerors "having **accomplished** all things.

## 2. STAFF – ROD/SCEPTER

- Staff signifies power, God commanded Moses to take a staff (or rod), with which he was to do miracles; and he took **the rod of God in his hand**.
- When the rock of Horeb was smitten with the rod, waters gushed out – **when he used the authority** given to him by God the impossible happened.
- This is what WILL HAPPEN TO YOU, when you **use the authority** given to you by God, the impossible happened.
- When, the waters in Egypt were smitten by the rod **they became blood**.
- When the rod was stretched out over the streams, **frogs came up**,
- When the rod was stretched out toward heaven, "the Lord sent thunder and hail, and fire darted to the ground"
- When the house of Israel, **failed to heed the voice of the Lord to** "repent, and turn from all their transgressions" **they lost their power to rule** (Ezekiel 19:14) Fire has come out from a rod of her branches and devoured her fruit, So that she has no strong branch— a sceptre for ruling."

- The rod was their staff of authority, and **it was to with them in order to be successful** in effecting change.
- The good news is that, as Moses was given the authority, the believer like me and you has also been given authority (Isaiah 11:1, 4) "There shall come forth a Rod from the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots. But with righteousness He shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; He shall strike the earth **with the rod of His mouth,**"
- **The rod of His mouth is his Word** – it is "a double-edged sword that judges the thoughts and the intents of the heart."
- This is the authority we move operate in; this is the authority we stand in.

## THE BELIEVER HAS THE AUTHORITY TO DO THE FOLLOWING

### 1. Approach the Throne of Grace Boldly

- Heb. 4:16 "Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need."
- We have been given the authority to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus – confidently.
- We have a **great high priest** Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast to him.
- He is **seated at the right hand of the Father** making intercession for us - **as our advocate**.

### 2. Authority to Use the Name of Jesus

- Mark 16:17 "... In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues" – not every person has the right to His Name – only us – those who received Him as their Lord and saviour.

### 3. Authority to Test Everything

- The Bible say test the spirits - "You have the authority to determine - is this the Holy Spirit?"
- Test doctrine - "is this the Word of God?"
- Test one's calling - "is he/she called by God?"
- All believers have the authority to test all things. All supernatural events in the Church need to be tested.

### 4. Authority to Hinder Satan/Demons in their Activities

- This includes the authority to resist Satan (James 4:7) "Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you."
- This includes the authority to forbid Satan (2Cor 10:4-5) "the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting

down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ"

## 5. Authority to Intercede

- 1Ti 2:1 "I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men"
- Abraham interceded for Sodom so that it may not be destroyed for the **sake of the** righteous but not even five righteous people could be found.
- Those **who are not born again** cannot intercede because they cannot approach the throne of grace.
- We have the authority to approach the throne of God, therefore we have the authority to intercede for others.

## CONCLUSION

- As a believer and the follower of Christ you have been given the authority - stand on it - do not hide it, carry it with you wherever you go.
- Psalm 23:4 "Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil, for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me."
- Stand therefore in this authority – do be not shaken by what you see, be immovable in the Lord.
- Regardless of the tribulations, and challenges that will come your way, have courage, Christ your Lord has overcome the world.

**God Bless you...Amen!!!**