



CELL GUIDE

TOPIC	Jehovah Nissi - Spiritual Covering	SPEAKER	Ps Daniel Foo
THEME	Critical Concerns beyond the Souls of Man	DATE	31 Aug & 1 Sep 2024

MESSAGE SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

Jehovah Nissi (the Lord is My Banner) appeared in Exodus 17:8-16, when Moses built an altar to the Lord after the Israelites had defeated the Amalekites in battle. The Amalekites were very evil people and they represent the spiritual forces arrayed against us. The Banner was the rod of Moses which brought about the defeat of Amalekites, brought the ten plagues on Egypt, parted and closed the Red Sea and smote the Rock and brought forth water.

In our lives, there will be battles which require the spiritual covering of God. Success is assured for God's people only when they fight under Jehovah Nissi, the Lord our Banner of Victory.

SPIRITUAL COVERING

1. Why do we need spiritual covering?

There are known/unknown, seen/unseen and spiritual/physical enemies. When we walk with God, He will make all our enemies at peace with us. However, we are not covered from the consequences of our own choices. Some examples of God's covering include:

- a) The devil is evil and seeks to steal, kill and destroy (Jn 10:10). However, God promised that the evil one cannot harm believers (1 Jn 5:18), unless we give him an open door (Eph 4:27). The devil goes about looking for open doors (1 Pet 5:8). As such, we need to confess our sins for His blood to cover us, so that there will not be any open doors (1 Jn 1:9, Ps 32:1);
- b) With faith and in Christ, we can overcome the fallen world (1 Jn 5); and
- c) Whoever hears the Word of God and fears God will be steadied in rains, winds and floods. (Matt 7:24-25, Isa 59:19).

2. Who provides spiritual covering?

The ultimate covering comes from God, who covers His people all day long (Deut 33:12), under His wings (Ps 91:4) and with the shadow of His hand (Isa 51:16). The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much (James 5:16). A righteous person has right standing, right believing and right doing with God. The efficacy and effectiveness of spiritual prayers vary from personal prayer by yourself, prayer by someone in a covenantal relationship with you, prayer by a godly person and

prayer by a fellow brother/sister in the church. We need to remember to pray, having the confidence and boldness to always enter the presence of God.

3. How are we covered spiritually?

Our covering comes when we submit to His delegated authority over our lives:

- a) In the family, where we pray for every family member by name before the Lord, through personal, marriage and family altars (Eph 6:1-4, Job 1:5, 10, Eph 5:21-23, Col 3:18-21)
- b) In the church, where we submit to our cell leaders, supervisors and pastors, as they provide covering over us and we can help them to succeed by uniting in the spirit (Heb 13:17, 1 Thes 5:12-13, 2 Sam 10:9-12)
- c) In the workplace, where we can be obedient to our supervisors, pray for and bless the people around us (Eph 6:5)
- d) In the nation, where churches come together to pray for Singapore (Rom 13:1).

4. What do we need to know about spiritual covering?

Prayers open the blessings of God. When we submit to God's delegated authority over us as unto the Lord, we will receive blessings, which include His protection, provision, peace and favour in the family, church, workplace and the nation (Ps 84:11). When we do not submit to God's delegated authority over us, we reap negative consequences (Rom 13:2, 1 Sam 15:23). The only exception to submission to God's delegated authority is when it causes us to violate the laws of God, e.g. physical abuse within the family (Acts 5:29).

Routine days require routine covering, while non-routine days will need extra covering as the demonic world is restless and seeking rest (Matt 12:43-45). We need to exercise vigilance by making a significant decision towards God, bringing the Kingdom of God into our lives and situations and also stepping up in ministry. If the usual source of covering over us is faulty, we need to proactively look for other covering.

We can lose our protection or covering when we do not walk in obedience (1 Jn 1:7), when we have a spirit of unforgiveness (Matt 6:14-16) or when we are disconnected from the body-life (James 5:19-20). Disconnection with God will further expose us to evil, including witchcraft and curses.

CONCLUSION

In the battle with the Amalekites in Exodus 17:8-16, Israel's best men by themselves could not defeat them and Joshua needed Moses, Aaron and Hur to cover him. Only by spiritual covering or warfare could the Amalekites be defeated.

Jehovah Nissi is our ultimate spiritual covering. Ps Daniel called us to be plugged into BBTC's body-life, connect with people who are walking closely with God, be each other's keeper and cover each other in prayer (Gen 4:9).

QUESTIONS

1. Is there a time in your life when you experienced a “Jehovah Nissi” moment, where you felt The Lord is your Banner in a challenging situation? Reflect on that experience and share how God’s covering has shaped your faith journey.

2. Joshua needed Moses, Aaron and Hur to cover him during the battle with the Amalekites. Do you have someone in your life who provides you with regular spiritual covering and support? How has this person made a difference in your faith journey?

3. Think about someone who may be fighting a battle and need support. How can you support him/her in their battles, just as Moses, Aaron and Hur supported Joshua in the battle with the Amalekites?