

TEXT: JEREMIAH 51:20

“YOU ARE MY BATTLE-AXE AND WEAPONS OF WAR”

Part 2: 2 Chronicles 16:9

“The eyes of the LORD search the whole earth in order to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him.”

⁹ For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show Himself strong on behalf of *those* whose heart *is* loyal to Him. NKJV

Whoever God identifies, He strengthens and uses as His battle axe- and weapon of war.

That is why:

In Exodus 3, as Moses was tending the flock of Jethro his father-in-law,

² the angel of the LORD appeared to him in flames of fire from within

a bush at Horeb, the mountain of God. God called to him from within the bush, “Moses! Moses!” And Moses said, “Here I am.”

⁶Then God said, “I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob.”... ⁷“I have indeed seen the misery of my people in Egypt. I have heard them crying out because of their slave drivers, and I am concerned about their suffering. ⁸ So I have come down to rescue them from the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey—the home of the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites. ⁹ And now the cry of the Israelites has reached me, and I have seen the way the Egyptians are oppressing them. ¹⁰ **So now, go. I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people the Israelites out of Egypt.**”

¹¹ But Moses said to God, “Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?”

Moses needed to be strengthened. And God did so.

¹² And God said, “I will be with you. And this will be the sign to you that it is I who have sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you will worship God on this mountain.”

God identified Moses as the axe and weapon He can use to fight in Egypt. And He strengthened him.

Moses was used because God, who searches the whole earth, had seen His commitment.

In Exodus 2.

¹¹ One day, after Moses had grown up, he went out to where his own people were and watched them at their hard labor. He saw an Egyptian beating a Hebrew, one of his own people. ¹² Looking this way and that and seeing no one, he killed the Egyptian and hid him in the sand. ¹³ The next day he went out and saw two Hebrews fighting. He asked the one in the wrong, “Why are you hitting your fellow Hebrew?”

..... ¹⁵ When Pharaoh heard of this, he tried to kill Moses, but Moses fled from Pharaoh and went to live in Midian, where he sat down by a well. Here he met and married the daughter of Jethro, the priest in Midian

Therefore, God used Moses to defeat the Egyptians and deliver the Israelites.

In Joshua 1, God identified Joshua and committed to use him as his axe and weapon of war.

¹After the death of Moses the servant of the LORD, the LORD said to Joshua son of Nun, **Moses' aide:** ²“Moses my servant is dead. Now then, you and all these people, get ready to cross the Jordan River into the land I am about to give to them—to the Israelites.

³ I will give you every place where you set your foot, as I promised Moses. ⁴Your territory will extend from the desert to Lebanon, and from the great river, the Euphrates—all the Hittite country—to the Mediterranean Sea in the west.⁵ No one will be able to stand against you all the days of your life. As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will never leave you nor forsake you. ⁶Be strong and courageous, because you will lead these people to inherit the land I swore to their ancestors to give them.

⁷“Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the law my servant Moses gave you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, that

you may be successful wherever you go.

God strengthened Joshua

“⁷ And the LORD said to Joshua, “Today I will begin to exalt you in the eyes of all Israel, so they may know that I am with you as I was with Moses.”
(Joshua 3)

“...¹³ About forty thousand armed for battle crossed over before the LORD to the plains of Jericho for war. ¹⁴ That day the LORD exalted Joshua in the sight of all Israel; and they stood in awe of him all the days of his life, just as they had stood in awe of Moses.” (Joshua 4).

The commitment of Joshua is undoubted:

Numbers 13, The LORD now said to Moses, ² “Send out men to explore the land of Canaan, the land I am giving to the Israelites.

When they returned, all the men reported negatively except Joshua and Caleb “²⁸ But the people living there are powerful, and their towns are large and fortified. We even saw giants there, the descendants of Anak! ²⁹ The Amalekites live in the Negev, and the Hittites, Jebusites, and Amorites live in the hill country. The Canaanites live along the coast of the

Mediterranean Sea and along the Jordan Valley.”

In Numbers 14, ⁶Two of the men who had explored the land, Joshua and Caleb, tore their clothing.⁷ They said to all the people of Israel, “The land we traveled through and explored is a wonderful land! ⁸And if the LORD is pleased with us, he will bring us safely into that land and give it to us. It is a rich land flowing with milk and honey. ⁹Do not rebel against the LORD, and don’t be afraid of the people of the land. They are only helpless prey to us! They have no protection, but the LORD is with us! Don’t be afraid of them!”

¹⁰ But the whole community began to talk about stoning Joshua and Caleb.

Brethren, “The eyes of the LORD search the whole earth in order to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him.”

Acts 9:1-31 gives account of The Conversion of Saul

“Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest ²and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem.

³Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, **suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him.** ⁴**He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, ‘Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?’** ⁵He asked, ‘Who are you, Lord?’ The reply came, ‘I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting.

Brethren, the eyes of the Lord were trailing Saul but he did not know it. That is why it is dangerous to do things and think that God is not seeing it.

⁶But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.’ ⁷The men who were travelling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. ⁸Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the

hand and brought him into Damascus. ⁹For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

¹⁰ Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, 'Ananias.' He answered, 'Here I am, Lord.' ¹¹The Lord said to him, 'Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, ¹²and he has seen in a vision* a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight.'

God planned to use Saul as the axe and weapon

.... ¹⁵But the Lord said to Ananias, 'Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; ¹⁶I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name.' ¹⁷So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul* and said, 'Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.' ¹⁸**And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, and**

¹⁹after taking some food, he regained his strength.

For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, ²⁰and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, 'He is the Son of God.' ²¹All who heard him were amazed and said, 'Is not this the man who made havoc in Jerusalem among those who invoked this name?'

Brethren, God can use anyone!

"His eyes search the whole earth in order to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him."

Job 31:4 "Does He not see my ways and count my every step?"

Psalms 33:15 "He shapes the hearts of each; He considers all their works."

Proverbs 15:3 The eyes of the LORD are in every place, observing the evil and the good.

We are His battle axe and His weapon of war.

As we demonstrate full commitment, He will see it and use us to His glory.

God Bless you!

2019 PRAYER POINTS

1. Pray on today's message. May our heart be fully committed to the Lord; our works acceptable to Him.
2. For KCM ask for grace to diligently fulfil its mandate as "the house of prayer for all nations" (Isaiah 56:7), extending God's love to all the nations. May we be fully committed to the Lord and our prayers acceptable to Him.
3. Prayer for the Leaders of Nations – their heart be fully committed to the Lord; their works acceptable
4. Continue to thank God for stopping the oppression of rebellious organizations. Ask Him for peace to reign
5. Continue to ask God to have mercy on our land, forgive our sins & heal us (2 Chro, 7:13-18).
6. Pray for Ministers and Missionaries.- for their heart be fully committed to the Lord; their works acceptable
7. Pray for Marriages, Children and families. Restoration of troubled marriages & children - for their heart to be fully committed to the Lord; their deeds acceptable to Him
8. Pray for members of the fellowship - for their heart to be fully committed to the Lord; their works acceptable to Him
9. Make a personal request (pray for yourself)
10. Pray for the needs of the members & the fellowship, and any special request.
11. pray for next Sunday.