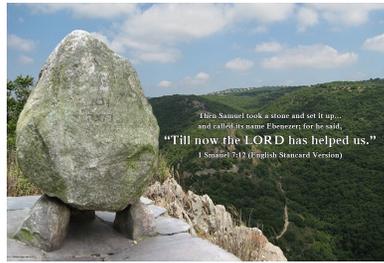


“Till Now the LORD has helped us!”

I Samuel 7:1-17



Introduction: A “*memorial*” is a “*marker*” intended to remind us of significant past events.

Memorial Day is a reminder that freedom from evil and oppression requires both commitment and sacrifice.

The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob delivers those who confess their sin, repent and cry out to Him, and gives them peace and rest.

I. There is a time for mourning, repentance and seeking after God ...

Matthew 5:4: “ Blessed are those who mourn for they shall be comforted !”

God carried out HIS judgment on Israel by bringing the Philistines against them. (I Samuel 3-4)

What God says He will do, He does ... in His time and in His way !

I Samuel 7:3: “If you are returning to the LORD with all your heart ... direct your heart to the LORD and serve Him ONLY, and He will deliver you ...”

Isaiah 55:6-7: “ Seek the LORD while He may be found; call upon Him while He is near ... let him return to the LORD ...”

I Samuel 7:6: “We have sinned against the LORD !”

I John 1:9: “IF we confess our sin, HE is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from unrighteousness.”

II. There is a time for God’s deliverance ...

I Samuel 7:7-10: “But the LORD thundered with a mighty sound that day against the Philistines and threw them into confusion and they were defeated before Israel” (vs. 10).

Romans 5:1-2: “Through Him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand” (vs. 2).

Hebrews 4:14-16: “Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace in time of need” (vs. 16).

Romans 8:31-32: “ ... If God is for us, who can be against us?” (vs. 31).

“Ebenezer” = “ Stone of help .”

Isaiah 26:3-4: “ Trust in the LORD forever, for the LORD God is an everlasting ROCK !” (vs. 4)

Psalms 18:2-3: “The LORD is my and my fortress and my Deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge ...” (vs. 3).

The stone was a “*memorial*,” a visible reminder of God’s deliverance in the past and of their dependence upon Him in the future.

God delivers His people so they will find rest in Him and give thanks and worship Him!

Isaiah 54:17: “For behold, I create a new heavens and a new earth, and the former things shall not be remembered or come to mind.”

III. There is a time for thanksgiving, peace and rest ...

Verses 13-17 ... Those who are older know that there are times when God graciously gives us peace and rest !!

Many find it hard to “*get in the mood*” to worship because they fail to remember what God has done!

Philippians 3:8: “I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord!”

“Till NOW the LORD has helped us!” - I Samuel 7:12