



*“These are the nations the LORD left to test all those Israelites who had not experienced any of the wars in Canaan (he did this only to teach warfare to the descendants of the Israelites who had not had previous battle experiences).”  
Judges 3:2*

Strange passage! Israel went through battles to learn warfare! That seems to be the way of the Lord. He allows His people to go through all kinds of battles in order to learn how to fight through to the ultimate victory. We may lose skirmishes, but the war has been won.

Nashville has been through a significant flood in recent days. Many houses have been under siege; some have lost everything. Others around the world have gone through similar onslaughts. The question we must ask ourselves is, “How are we faring?” Are we passing the tests? Are we continuing, like Job, to yield our hearts to God in the midst of the turmoil?

Many face financial needs, not experiencing the abundant provisions that have been promised. We fight, but do not always win. Are we still walking with surrendered hearts even though we do not comprehend?

Some have clung to promises God has spoken, but have yet to see their fulfillment. Do we trust Him in spite of His inexplicable delay?

God is the Healer of our bodies. Jesus said that believers would lay hands on the sick and they would recover. James told us to call for elders to anoint and pray over the sick, that they would be raised up, and if sins had been committed they would be forgiven. We may have stood on His Word to the best of our ability, but have not seen the results of which James spoke. Are we still following faithfully even through the pain?

God allows trials. He has not promised us a life of ease, nor that we would comprehend the path. We will never understand Him or His ways, but only as we surrender continually will we have that peace that transcends understanding.

Don't give up. Don't give in. Yeshua/Jesus is the resurrected Messiah of Israel and Redeemer of the world. There is no other redeemer, no other Name by which victory will come.

*Praise be to the LORD my Rock, who trains my hands for war, my fingers for battle.  
Psalm 144:1*

*Come let us return to the LORD, He has torn us to pieces, but He will heal us.  
He has injured us, but He will bind up our wounds.  
After two days He will revive us, on the third day He will restore us,  
that we may live in His presence.  
Let us acknowledge the LORD: let us press on to acknowledge Him.  
As surely as the sun rises, He will appear;  
He will come to us like the winter rains, like the spring rains that water the earth.  
Hosea 6:1-3*