

January 18

TODAY'S BIBLE STUDY & MEDITATION

KEY IDEAS: Is the Lord my source of direction and encouragement? Do I see myself as God sees me, as one in whom He delights and that He has made to be a partaker of His glory? Is there anything that causes me to live in the shadows? Are there things that keep my life in turmoil?

1 **The Lord is our banner** — *Exodus 17:15 And Moses built an altar, and called the name of it Jehovahnissi. [‘the LORD our banner’]*

What role in a battle does a banner play as a source of direction?

For what examples of encouragement and direction can I praise God?

2 **I am caused to rest before the Lord Who is my banner** — *Isaiah 11:10 And in that day there shall be a root of Jesse, which shall stand for an ensign of the people; to it shall the Gentiles seek: and his rest shall be glorious.*

What are the benefits of learning to rest in the Lord and experiencing His rest?

What things distract me and keep me from maintaining the Lord as my focus?

3 **I am to let my life display my identity so others may see Christ** — *Philippians 2:14 Do all things without murmurings and disputings: 15 That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world....*

What clouds my witness and how does my life reflect the world's values?

In what ways does my life show a dependence upon the Lord and His values?

Spirit of Truth, how do you want to apply these verses in my life today?

OPTIONAL BIBLE READINGS

Morning: Matthew 12:24-50

Evening: Genesis 43, 44, 45