

## Not If, But When

### Description

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#### Deuteronomy 20:1-9

In this life, there will always be something to fear. In Deuteronomy 20, God warned the Israelites that their enemies would always have “horses and chariots and an army greater than” theirs (v. 1). Nevertheless, God’s promise was clear: There was no need for faint hearts or for fear and trembling. Not only would God be with them, He would be fighting for them. In some strange and wonderful way, God would be there to defend them and give them victory.

There are few things more painful than feelings of abandonment. Yet God’s Word is clear. Not if, but when we experience these times, we must remember His promise: We have not been abandoned. He is with us. Our feelings will betray us when we face battles—they will try to trick us into thinking we are alone. However, we are not. We must remember that we have not been abandoned—God is with us. Just as God assured Joshua in the midst of trials, may He assure our hearts today: “I will never leave you nor forsake you” (Joshua 1:5b).

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