David wrote:

It is not an enemy who taunts me—I could bear that.

It is not my foes who so arrogantly insult me—

I could have hidden from them.
Instead, it is you—my equal,
my companion and close friend.
What good fellowship we once enjoyed
as we walked together to the house of
God.... (Psalm 55:12-14 NLT)

I've never been on a battlefield in the natural; never been a soldier. I have seen so much of what satan has done to so many who were deceived—believed lies, or fell into his traps through temptations; but sometimes I am



haunted by the look on the face of a wounded warrior who does battle in the spiritual realm. I can see that face as if it happened today. It's a face I can't forget.

The warrior was not in the battle for personal gain, but for the gain of others. The pain of betrayal when the blow, the attack, came from a close companion hurt more than it would have from any enemy. The one usually mighty in battle temporarily suspended, temporarily paralyzed in no position to ward off an additional blow. And where would the next blow come from? Who would be the next? Another friend?

The pain I saw on that face became mine too. The face of the caring one was different then than what I had ever seen before. I guess that's why I can't forget, and I see that face from time to time.

Some things are hard to understand the *why* of. But God is always in control. It took a while, but God is good. The pain might never be forgotten. The warrior would have the scars forever. But I see a stronger warrior now—in whom God worked all together for good!

It really made me think about how important it is for us to stand together beside the fighting warriors. To go with them and take a stand together. The battle might be long, but as we fight the fight together we will overcome through the victory He has won.

While the people of Israel were still at Rephidim, the warriors of Amalek attacked them. Moses commanded Joshua, "Choose some men to go out and fight the army of Amalek for us. Tomorrow, I will stand at the top of the hill, holding the staff of God in my hand." So Joshua did what Moses had commanded and fought the army of Amalek. Meanwhile, Moses, Aaron, and Hur climbed to the top of a nearby hill. As long as Moses held up the staff in his hand, the Israelites had the advantage. But whenever he dropped his hand, the Amalekites gained the advantage. Moses' arms soon became so tired he could no longer hold them up. So Aaron and Hur found a stone for him to sit on. Then they stood on each side of Moses, holding up his hands.

So his hands held steady until sunset. As a result, Joshua overwhelmed the army of Amalek in battle. (Exodus 17:8-13 NIV)

We'll go with you in the battle,
We'll go with you, We'll be strong.
We'll be fighting right beside you,
Though the battle may be long.
We will fight the fight together,
Until that future day,
Fighting for their freedom,
In a very different way,
'Til we all can be together
In safety in the land,
God has give for possession
Into His faithful's hand.