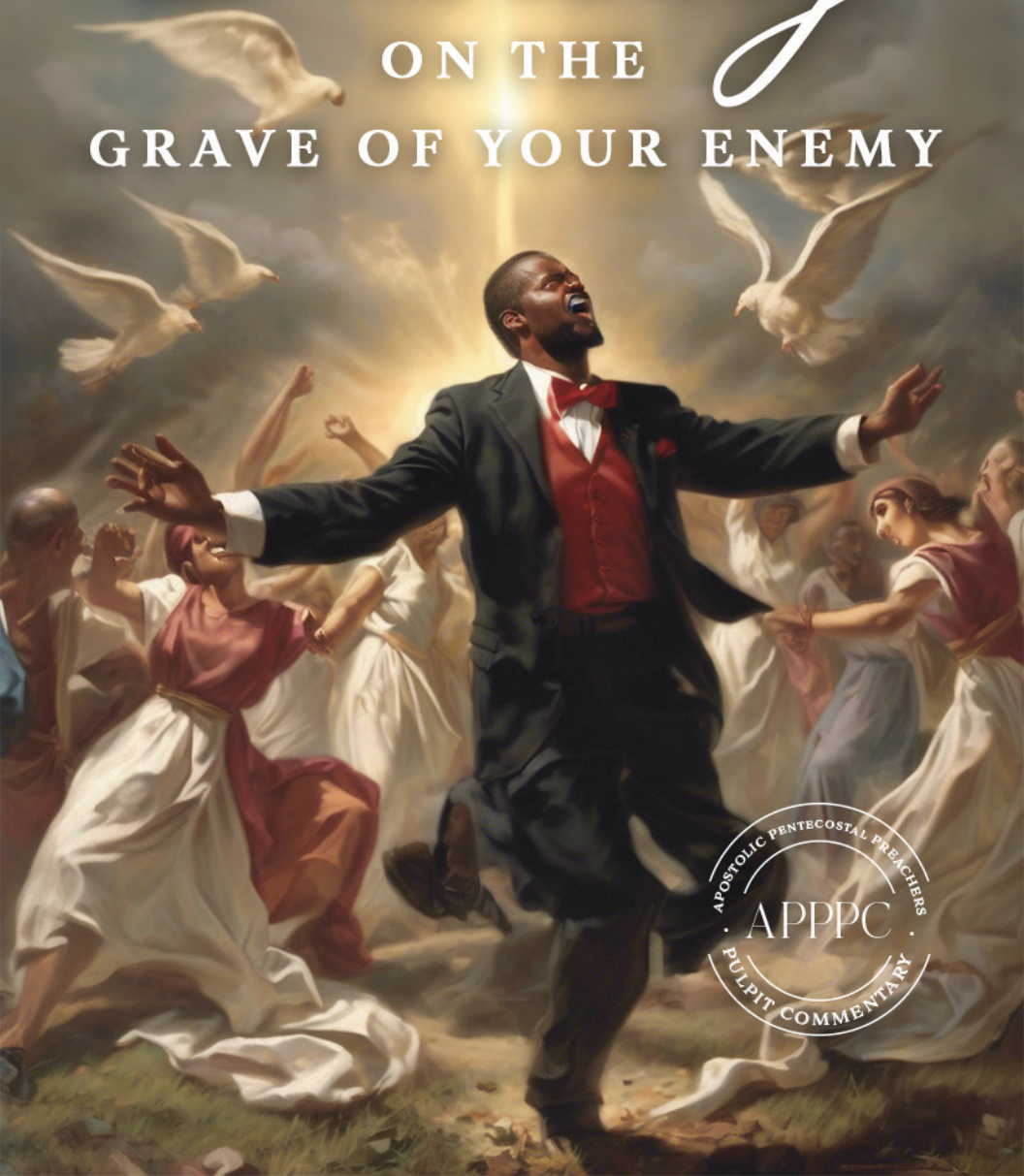


PASTOR KEITH JOEL WALKER

# *Dancing*

ON THE  
GRAVE OF YOUR ENEMY





# DANCING ON THE GRAVE OF YOUR ENEMY

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## Introduction

In the spiritual battle we face, we often find ourselves in a struggle against a common enemy—the devil. However, we can take heart, for if God is for us, who can stand against us? (Romans 8:31). This sermon booklet serves to remind us of the victories God has given His people throughout history and encourages us to dance on the graves of our enemies, celebrating the triumphs of our Lord.

### Old Testament Leaders Who Danced on the Grave of Their Enemies

1. Moses: After the Israelites crossed the Red Sea and the Egyptian army was defeated, Miriam led the women in dance, celebrating the victory over Pharaoh (Exodus 15:20-21).
2. David: King David danced before the Lord with all his might when the Ark of the Covenant was brought to Jerusalem, symbolizing his victory over his enemies (2 Samuel 6:14).
3. Deborah: Alongside Barak, Deborah sang a song of victory over Sisera, celebrating the defeat of their oppressor (Judges 5).

### Israel's Conquests and Victories

As Israel entered the Promised Land under the leadership of Joshua, they faced numerous battles against formidable foes. Each victory was a testament to God's faithfulness, and often, the people celebrated their triumphs with joy and praise.

1. Battle of Jericho: The walls of Jericho fell after the



Israelites marched around the city for seven days and shouted on the seventh day (Joshua 6). This victory was celebrated with great rejoicing.

2. Battle of Ai: After an initial setback, Joshua led the Israelites to a decisive victory over Ai by using a strategic ambush (Joshua 8:1-29). The defeat of Ai was a moment of great celebration.

3. The Southern Campaign: Joshua led the Israelites in a series of battles against five kings of the Amorites (Joshua 10:1-27). After God caused the sun to stand still, they achieved a miraculous victory, and the kings were executed, symbolizing the defeat of their enemies.

4. The Northern Campaign: Joshua faced a coalition of northern kings led by Jabin, king of Hazor. The Israelites defeated them decisively (Joshua 11:1-15).

This victory was celebrated as a testament to God's power.

5. Conquest of the Land: Throughout Joshua's leadership, the Israelites conquered various territories, including the cities of Hebron, Debir, and others (Joshua 10:36-39). Each victory was marked by celebrations and thanksgiving to God.

### Enemies We Fight in Life

In addition to the historical enemies mentioned, we face various spiritual, emotional, and societal enemies in our daily lives:

1. Fear: Fear can paralyze us and prevent us from fulfilling God's calling. The Bible reminds us that God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power, love, and a sound mind (2 Timothy 1:7).
2. Doubt: Doubt can undermine our faith. Jesus addressed doubt in His disciples and encouraged them to believe (Mark 11:23).
3. Temptation: Temptations can lead us away from God's path. Jesus faced temptation in the wilderness and overcame it by standing firm on God's Word (Matthew 4:1-11).
4. Addiction: Whether to substances, habits, or unhealthy relationships, addiction can enslave us.

Jesus promises freedom; “Whom the Son sets free is free indeed” (John 8:36).

5. Depression: Many biblical figures faced despair. Elijah, after a great victory, fell into depression but was restored by God (1 Kings 19).

6. Isolation: The enemy often seeks to isolate us, making us feel alone. Jesus promises His presence, stating, “I will never leave you nor forsake you” (Hebrews 13:5).

7. Pride: Pride can lead to a fall. The Bible warns that pride goes before destruction (Proverbs 16:18). Humility before God is essential for overcoming this enemy.

8. Bitterness: Holding onto resentment can poison our spirits. Ephesians 4:31-32 encourages us to let go of bitterness and forgive as Christ forgave us.

9. Disunity: The enemy often works to create division within families, churches, and communities. Jesus prayed for unity among believers (John 17:20-23).

### New Testament Examples of Overcoming Enemies

1. Jesus and the Pharisees: Jesus faced constant opposition from the religious leaders. However, He often turned their challenges into teaching moments, ultimately defeating their plans through His resurrection (Matthew 22-23).

2. Paul and Silas: Imprisoned for preaching the Gospel, Paul and Silas sang hymns and prayed at midnight. Their praise led to an earthquake that freed them and resulted in the jailer's conversion (Acts 16:25-34).

3. Stephen: The first martyr faced persecution but boldly proclaimed the truth before the Sanhedrin, leading to a powerful testimony that would resonate in the early church (Acts 7).

4. The Early Church: Despite facing persecution, the early church thrived. Acts 5:41 describes how the apostles rejoiced for being counted worthy to suffer disgrace for the Name of Jesus.

5. John on Patmos: John faced exile for his faith but received the Revelation of Jesus Christ, which has encouraged countless believers throughout history (Revelation 1:9).

## Historical Stories of Dancing on the Graves of Our Enemies

1. The Fall of the Berlin Wall (1989): The collapse of the Berlin Wall symbolized the end of oppression and division in Germany. Citizens celebrated by dancing on the wall, marking their newfound freedom from a regime that had held them captive for decades.

2. Victory in World War II (1945): Following the

defeat of the Axis powers, celebrations erupted across the world. In cities like Paris, people danced in the streets, rejoicing in their liberation from tyranny and oppression.

3. The Abolition of Slavery: When slavery was abolished in the United States, many African Americans celebrated their freedom. Events like the first Juneteenth celebrations included dancing and joyful gatherings, symbolizing a hard-fought victory over oppression.

4. South Africa's Freedom from Apartheid (1994): The end of apartheid marked a significant victory for justice and equality. Nelson Mandela's release from prison and the subsequent elections were celebrated with widespread dancing and festivities, symbolizing the triumph over systemic oppression.

5. The Fall of the Roman Empire: As the oppressive rule of the Roman Empire waned, many regions celebrated their newfound freedom. The fall of Rome was marked by festivals and dances as people rejoiced in their liberation from tyranny.

6. The End of the Vietnam War (1975): The conclusion of the Vietnam War brought about celebrations among veterans and peace activists alike, as they gathered to honor the sacrifices made and to celebrate the end of a long and divisive conflict.



## A Story of a Soldier Dancing on His Enemy's Grave



One poignant story comes from World War I, during the famous Christmas Truce of 1914. Amidst the brutal trench warfare, soldiers from both sides laid down their arms and met in No Man's Land to

celebrate Christmas together. They exchanged gifts, sang carols, and even played soccer.

After the truce, as the fighting resumed, a British soldier named Private William Jones found himself in a fierce battle against German forces. In a decisive moment, his unit managed to capture a key German position. After the battle, Private Jones stood over the grave of a fallen German soldier, reflecting on the futility of war and the shared humanity of those who fight.

In a moment of profound realization, he began to dance, celebrating not just the victory but also honoring the life lost. His comrades joined him, and they danced together in a somber yet joyous tribute

to the fallen, acknowledging that while they had won the battle, they mourned the loss of life on both sides. This act of dancing on the grave of an enemy became a symbol of hope and reconciliation amidst the horrors of war.

## Scriptures on Dancing Before the Lord

The Bible contains numerous references to dancing as an expression of joy, praise, and victory before the



Lord. Here are some key scriptures that highlight this theme:

### 1. Exodus 15:20-21:

“Then Miriam the prophetess, the sister of Aaron, took a timbrel in her hand; and all the women went out after her

with timbrels and with dances. And Miriam answered them: ‘Sing to the Lord, for He has triumphed gloriously! The horse and its rider He has thrown into the sea!’”

2. 2 Samuel 6:14: “And David danced before the Lord with all his might; and David was wearing a linen ephod.”

3. Psalm 30:11: “You have turned for me my mourning

into dancing; You have put off my sackcloth and clothed me with gladness.”

4. Psalm 149:3: “Let them praise His name with the dance; Let them sing praises to Him with the timbrel and harp.”

5. Psalm 150:4: “Praise Him with the sound of the trumpet; Praise Him with the lute and harp! Praise Him with the timbrel and dance; Praise Him with stringed instruments and flutes!”

6. Ecclesiastes 3:4: “A time to weep, and a time to laugh; A time to mourn, and a time to dance.”

7. Jeremiah 31:13: “Then shall the virgin rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old, together; for I will turn their mourning to joy, will comfort them, and make them rejoice rather than sorrow.”

8. Luke 15:25: “Now his older son was in the field. And as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing.”

9. Revelation 19:7: “Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready.”

### Conclusion: Time to Dance

As we reflect on these stories and the enemies we