

# Expressions of Faith

through the ages in poetry and prayer

WEEK SEVEN

**PERSON** Samuel Stennett (1727-1795)

*Samuel Stennett was a British dissenting preacher in London. As an English dissenter he opposed state interference in religious matters, and therefore remained separate from the established Church of England. Several of his poems have been used as hymns, the most famous being “On Jordan’s Stormy Banks I Stand.”*

**PRAYER** My captain sounds the alarm of war,  
“Awake, the powers of hell are near!  
“To arms! To arms!” I hear him cry,  
‘Tis yours to conquer or to die.

Hope is my helmet, faith my shield,  
Thy word, my God, the sword I wield;  
With sacred truth my loins are girt,  
And holy zeal inspires my heart.

Thus armed I venture on the fight;  
Resolved to put my foes to flight,  
While Jesus kindly deigns to spread  
His conquering banner o’er my head.

In him I hope, in him I trust;  
His bleeding cross is all my boast.  
Through troops of foes he’ll lead me on  
To victory and the victor’s crown.

*~ “The Christian Warfare” was a poem written by Stennett that was used as a hymn in the 1700 & 1800’s. It is a call to preparation for the believer—If the enemy does not rest, then neither can the believer rest.*

**PURPOSE** Are you prepared for the fight that awaits you as you serve Jesus? Are you armed to fight against your enemy? Is your hope only in Jesus and not in your abilities or past success? As the summer progresses the battles can often become more intense. Lean on Christ for your victory.