

GEORGE WASHINGTON

Numbers 10:9, *"And if ye go to war in your land against the enemy that oppresseth you, then ye shall blow an alarm with the trumpets; and ye shall be remembered before the LORD your God, and ye shall be saved from your enemies."*

Psalms 91:7, *"A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee."*



There is an amazing story told about God's providential watch care in the life of George Washington our nation's first president. President Washington was born in Westmoreland County, VA on February 22nd 1732.

This incident happened on July 9th, 1755 while Washington was just a colonel in the colonial militia and only 23 years of age. The colonies, along with British were, at war with the French and Indians (a mix of Ottawa, Huron and Chippewa tribes) over disputed land in the Ohio Valley.

On one operation Colonel Washington and colonial militia along with British regulars under the command of General Edward Braddock were dispatched to Fort Duquesne which is now known as Pittsburgh. They were to drive the French out of that area.

The small force marched from Fort Necessity, with a combined number of almost 1,500 troops. These troops had to have been quite a sight with their bright red uniforms and marching through those woods as if on dress parade. These soldiers had been trained in for European warfare.

As they approached Fort Duquesne, in a valley along the Monongahela River they were attacked. The French and Indians were hidden behind trees and brush while the British stood in the open, not breaking and firing at what they could not see.

In the sight of two hours the French and Indians had killed or wounded over 1,000 British and Colonial troops while only having 30 of their own wounded, none killed. It was truly a slaughter. The British force was compelled to retreat back to Fort Necessity.

Nine days after the battle, having heard a rumor that he had been killed, Colonel Washington wrote a letter to his brother to confirm that he was in truth still alive.

"...As I have heard since my arrival at this place, a circumstantial account of my death and dying speech. I take this early opportunity of contradicting the first and of assuring you that I have not as yet composed the latter. But by the all-powerful dispensations of Providence I have been protected beyond all human probability or expectations; for I had four bullet holes through my coat, and two

horses shot under me yet escaped unhurt, although death was leveling my companions on every side of me!"

This is not the end of this story. Fifteen years later, 1770, George Washington and several friends traveled back to this battlefield in the Pennsylvania woods. An old, respected Indian chief, hearing George Washington was in the area traveled a long way to personally meet him.

This chief sat down with Washington, face to face over a council fire and related this story;

"...I am a chief and ruler over my tribes. My influence extends to the waters of the great lakes and to the far blue mountains. I have traveled a long and weary path that I might see the young warrior of the great battle. It was on the day when the white man's blood mixed with the streams of the forest that I first beheld the chief Washington.

I called to my young men and said, "Mark you tall and daring warrior? He is not of the red-coat tribe – he hath an Indian's wisdom and his warriors fight as we do – himself alone exposed. Quick, let your aim be certain and he dies.

Our rifles was leveled, rifles which but for you, know not how to miss – 'twas all in vain, a power mightier far than we shielded you. (The chief fired at Washington 12 times and one other brave said he had no less than 18 clear shots at Washington and could not hit him)

Seeing you were under the special guardianship of the Great Spirit, we immediately ceased to fire at you. I am old and shall soon be gathered to the great council fire of my fathers in the land of the shades, but ere I go, there is something buds me speak in the voice of prophecy.

Listen! The Great Spirit protects that man [pointing to Washington] and guides his destinies – he will become the chief of nations, and a people yet unborn will hail him as the founder of a mighty empire. I am come to pay homage to the man who is the particular favorite of Heaven, and who can die in Battle."