Another Rule and Power for Pawns

For being the smallest piece, the Pawn has a lot of special rules to follow.

The rules of chess we have today are not the same rules that were used years ago. Man has changed the rules of the game over time.

However, the rules and Laws of God are unchanging and constant.

At one time the Pawns could only move one square at a time.

The current rules allow for a pawn to move 1 or 2 squares on its first move.

Because of the rule change that allows a Pawn to move two squares on its first move, the ***En Passant*** rule was also created.

People are so often in a hurry to get somewhere or do something. Pushing the Pawn two squares is a fast way to start the Pawn on its journey across the board. When a Pawn could only move one square at a time, Pawns had to get near each other at some point in their trip across the board.

In this example, the White Pawn has moved to the c5 square. If Black was to move either his 'b' or 'd' Pawn the optional two squares, White would NOT be able to capture it since Pawns only move forward and capture diagonally.

However, the *En Passant* - or **In Passing Rule** does allow for the Pawn to be captured. It doesn't happen often, but it is a good rule to know.

 

Everyday we are passing people and people are passing us. We tend to get so busy in our own *little world* that we miss what is really going on. Many times we are given the chance to touch someone in some way and we do not do it. It may be nothing more than a simple smile at the person in line, or to the driver in the car that just cut in front of you, or maybe to a family member, friend, co-worker, or someone you do not even know yet.

It is up to you to use every opportunity to bring honor and glory to God.

You cannot change how the other person behaves, but **you can change how you behave toward other people.** It also does not matter how you compare to other people. The only person you need to compare yourself too is God, and when we do that, we all fall short of His glory and grace. (Romans 3:23)

You never know who you might run into. When you fail to share the love of the Lord Jesus with them you have no way of knowing if that person will ever have another chance to hear about God's gift. Bad things happen to good people. You and I do not know why or how things all fit into the master plan, but God knows. How often have you heard how remorseful someone was because they failed to do something for someone else, and then it was “too late!”

Three phrases I have often heard are:

 I meant to send a card while he was in the hospital....

 I was going to call to say I was sorry....

 I should have said, “*NAME*…, I love you...”

Don't let another minute go by. If there has been someone you have been meaning to talk to, put this book down now and write a letter or give them a phone call. Life is too short to put people aside. If there is something that is bothering you, pray God will guide and direct your thoughts.

Husbands and wives kiss each other before you leave for work and depart with kind words.

Parents, tell your children you love them and pray for them before they go off to school.

How would you feel if something was to happen and you were never to see your spouse or child again? Would you want the last memory to be about an angry moment, a conflict, or some problem?

The Bible tells us not to let the sun go down with unresolved conflicts.

(Ephesians 4:26–27)

**If you have a problem, work it out. You cannot let the situation pass by without making a decision to do something about it.**

**The En Passant Rule:**

This rule is a little tricky and many chess players do not understand how it works. *'En Passant'* is a French word that means ***'in passing'***.

In chess notation it is written **PxP ep**. or for example **cxd ep**.

***En Passant only works with Pawns.***

**THE RULE SAYS:**

**If a player moves a Pawn two squares, could it have been captured if it had only been moved 1 square?**

If the answer is '**YES**', and you want to capture the Pawn, you must do so on you very next turn.

*YOU MUST ACT QUICKLY AND TAKE ADVANTAGE OF*

*ANY OPPORTUNITY THAT IS PRESENTED.*

**If you COULD NOT have captured the Pawn if it had advanced 1 square, then the En Passant rule cannot be used.**

**It only works when the Pawn moves from its original square**

**And was moved 2 squares.**

In chess notation:

White can only capture a Black Pawn if White has a pawn on the 5th rank and Black pushes a Pawn two squares.

Black can only capture a White pawn if the Black Pawn is on the 4thrank and White pushes a Pawn two squares.

**Pray God will use you each day to touch others.**

Black is really excited about this game.

He feels he should be able to push his ‘a’ Pawn down the board. If the King tries to go after it, He has Pawns on ‘d’ and ‘g’. *White would not be able to stop them all from moving down.*

The only Pawns that can be captured with En Passant are **those that move two squares from their original starting position.** The only Pawns Black still has on their original squares that can also move two squares are the ‘a’ and ‘e’ Pawns.

The only Pawns of White that Black could capture are the ‘e’ and ‘h’ Pawns.

If White was to move the ‘f’ Pawn one square, it would look like Black could capture it, but the rule says **it must have moved two squares**.

**This is another reason for recording your moves.**

Black plays: P-a5 and White captures P x P ep.

(Black is really surprised because he does not know this rule!)

The White Pawn is now on a6.

Black really must recapture (b7 x a6)

but then the White c5 Pawn marches in for a promotion with three moves.

If Black does not recapture with b7 x a6,

then White advances to a7 and then a8. (Passed Pawn)