

# Fasting and Praying Your Way to Victory!

II Chronicles 20:1-30

[2chr20.ser]

## The Situation: Multiple Attacks by the Enemy:

- 1 Now it came about after this that the sons of **Moab** and the sons of **Ammon**, together with some of the **Meunites**, came to make war against Jehoshaphat.
- 2 Then some came and reported to Jehoshaphat, saying, "**A great multitude is coming against you** from beyond the sea, out of Aram and behold, they are in Engedi." *[overwhelmed]*

## Solution One: Embrace a Seeking Mode:

- 3 And Jehoshaphat **was afraid** and **turned his attention to seek the LORD**; *[watch illustration]*  
**Afraid--Alarmed--Fear--Badly shaken**

## Solution Two: Start Fasting:

- 3 and **proclaimed a fast throughout all Judah**. *[handout 3x5 cards]*

## Solution Three: Be United as One:

- 4 So Judah **gathered together** to seek help from the LORD; they even **came from all the cities of Judah** to seek the LORD. *[United-Seeking-Fasting-praying]*

## Solution Four: Pray Earnestly:

- 5 Then Jehoshaphat stood in the assembly of Judah and Jerusalem, in the house of the LORD before the new court, and he said,
- 6 "O LORD, **the God of our fathers**, art Thou not **God in the heavens?** And art Thou not **ruler over all the kingdoms** of the nations?  
**Power and might are in Thy hand** so that **no one can stand against Thee**.  
**No one can withstand you--don't let the wicked . . . . . stand against you; power and might are in your hand; Help me O Ruler of the nations!**
- 7 "Didst Thou not, O our God, drive out the inhabitants of this land before Thy people Israel, and give it to **the descendants of Abraham Thy friend forever?**
- 8 "And they lived in it, and have built Thee a sanctuary there for Thy name, saying,
- 9 'Should evil come upon us, the sword, or judgment, or pestilence, or famine, we will stand before this house and before Thee (**for Thy name is in this house**) *[In the Name of Jesus]* and **cry to Thee in our distress**, and **Thou wilt hear and deliver us**' *[Deliver us in our distress]*  
*[Hear and work a miracle of deliverance for us O Lord]*
- 10 "And now behold, the sons of Ammon and Moab and Mount Seir, whom Thou didst not let Israel invade when they came out of the land of Egypt (**they turned aside from them and did not destroy them**),
- 11 behold how they are **rewarding us, by coming to drive us out from Thy possession** which Thou hast given us as an inheritance.
- 12 "**O our God, wilt Thou not judge them?** For **we are powerless** before this great multitude who are coming against us; **nor do we know what to do, but our eyes are on Thee**."  
*O God, wilt thou not judge the wicked . . . for I am powerless before their lies; nor do I know what to do, BUT MY EYES ARE UPON THEE!*

## Solution Five: Seek until you Receive a Clear-Cut Word from God:

- 13 And all Judah was standing before the LORD, with their infants, their wives, and their children.
- 14 **Then in the midst of the assembly the Spirit of the LORD** came upon Jahaziel the son of Zechariah, the son of Benaiah, the son of Jeiel, the son of Mattaniah, the Levite of the sons of Asaph;
- 15 and he said, "Listen, all Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem and King Jehoshaphat: thus says the LORD to you, **'Do not fear or be dismayed because of this great multitude, for the battle is not yours but God's**.  
*Do not fear, or be dismayed (cleanse us all fear and depression); the battle is yours, O God*

- 16 ‘Tomorrow go down against them. Behold, they will come up by the ascent of Ziz, and you will find them at the end of the valley in front of the wilderness of Jeruel.
- 17 **‘You need not fight in this battle; station yourselves, stand and see the salvation of the LORD on your behalf.** O Judah and Jerusalem.’  
Do not fear or be dismayed; tomorrow go out to face them, for the LORD is with you.”
- *Let me not have to fight this battle; defeat the enemy for me.*
  - *I have taken up my position standing firm.*
  - *Let me now see the salvation [deliverance] of the Lord.*

### **Solution Six: Respond to God with both Humility and Praise:**

- 18 And Jehoshaphat **bowed his head with his face to the ground,** and all Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem **fell down** before the LORD, worshipping the LORD.  
*I bow my head in humility; I worship in faith for your deliverance.*
- 19 And the Levites, from the sons of the Kohathites and of the sons of the Korahites, **stood up to praise the LORD** God of Israel, **with a very loud voice.**

### **Solution Seven: Have Faith in God and His Prophets:**

- 20 So they rose early in the morning and went out into the Wilderness of Tekoa; and as they went out, Jehoshaphat stood and said,  
“Hear me, O Judah and you inhabitants of Jerusalem:  
**Believe in the LORD your God, and you shall be established;**  
**believe His prophets, and you shall prosper.**” (NKJ)

### **Solution Eight: Worship—Put the Choir in front of the Army:**

- 21 And when he had consulted with the people, he appointed **those who sang** to the LORD and those who **praised Him in holy attire, as they went out before the army** and said,  
“**Give thanks to the LORD, for His lovingkindness (Chesed) is everlasting.**”
- 22 And when **they began singing and praising,** **the LORD set ambushes** against the sons of Ammon, Moab, and Mount Seir, who had come against Judah; so they were **routed.** *[the enemy routed]*

### **The Sevenfold Victory!**

- 23 For the sons of Ammon and Moab rose up against the inhabitants of Mount Seir **destroying them completely,** and when they had finished with the inhabitants of Seir, **they helped to destroy one another.** *1.—Enemy completely destroyed!*
- 24 When Judah came to the lookout of the wilderness, they looked toward the multitude; and behold, they were **corpses lying on the ground,** and **no one had escaped.** *2.—Total victory!*
- 25 And when Jehoshaphat and his people came to **take their spoil,** they found much among them, including goods, garments, and **valuable things** which they took for themselves, **more than they could carry.** *3.—Came out with more than they went in with!*  
And they were **three days taking the spoil because there was so much.**
- 26 Then on the fourth day they assembled in the valley of Beracah, for there they blessed the LORD.  
Therefore they have named that place “The **Valley of Beracah**” until today. *4.—Valley of blessing!*
- 27 And every man of Judah and Jerusalem returned with Jehoshaphat at their head, *5.—Joy restored!*  
returning to Jerusalem with **joy,** for the LORD had made them to rejoice over their enemies.
- 28 And they **came to Jerusalem with harps, lyres, and trumpets to the house of the LORD.**
- 29 And the dread of God was on all the kingdoms of the lands *{Let the fear of God be upon my enemies.}*  
when they heard that the LORD had fought against the enemies of Israel.
- 30 So the kingdom of **Jehoshaphat was at peace,** *6.—At peace!*  
for his **God gave him rest on all sides.** (NAS) *7.—God give me rest, on all sides!*

**Fasting & Praying Your Way to Victory!**  
*(II Chronicles 20:1-30)*

**The Situation – Multiple Attacks by the Enemy.**

**Solution One: Embrace a Seeking Mode!**

**Solution Two: Start Fasting!**

**Solution Three: Be United as One!**

**Solution Four: Pray Earnestly!**

**Solution Five: Seek until you Receive a  
Clear-cut Word from God!**

**Solution Six: Respond to God with both  
Humility and Praise!**

**Solution Seven: Have Faith in God  
and His Prophets!**

**Solution Eight: Worship—Put the Choir in front  
of the Army!**

**Result: A Sevenfold Victory!**

