

In 2 Chronicles 20, King Jehoshaphat receives alarming news: a powerful alliance of three enemy nations—Moab, Ammon, and the people of Mount Seir—is marching to attack Judah. They are already in En Gedi, just a short distance away. Faced with a threat far greater than his army can withstand, Jehoshaphat does the wisest thing a leader can do: he turns to the Lord.

1. Seek God First When Overwhelmed Instead of relying on alliances or his military strength, Jehoshaphat calls a fast and gathers the people to seek help from God. In a posture of humility and desperation, he stands before the temple and prays:

"O our God...we have no might against this great company that cometh against us; neither know we what to do: but our eyes are upon thee." (2 Chronicles 20:12)

This is a prayer we can all relate to. How often have we faced circumstances beyond our control and echoed those words: "Lord, I don't know what to do, but I'm looking to You"? When we pray this way, we invite God to take over the battle.

2. Trust God's Promise Even Before the Victory God answers through the prophet Jahaziel, who brings this assurance:

"Be not afraid nor dismayed by reason of this great multitude; for the battle is not yours, but God's." (v.15)

Sometimes the greatest battles in our lives are the ones God never intended us to fight on our own. His message is simple: show up, stand still, and watch what I can do.

3. Worship Is a Weapon Instead of sending out warriors, Jehoshaphat appoints singers to go ahead of the army. As they march to the battlefield, they sing:

"Praise the LORD; for his mercy endureth forever." (v.21)

And while they worshiped, God set ambushes that turned the enemy forces against each other. The victory was won not by swords, but by surrendered hearts praising God.

Application: Worship when you feel like worrying. Praise when you feel like panicking. The Lord fights for those who trust Him.

4. There Is Blessing on the Other Side of the Battle When the people of Judah arrived, all they saw were the bodies of their enemies. Not one had survived. It took them three days to gather all the treasures left behind. And they named that place the Valley of Berachah, which means the Valley of Blessing.

Some of the greatest spiritual blessings in our lives come after the fiercest battles. What the enemy meant for destruction, God turns into a source of joy and praise.

5. Beware of Repeating Old Mistakes Sadly, even after witnessing this miracle, Jehoshaphat once again formed an alliance with an ungodly king—Ahaziah, the son of Ahab. Their venture to build ships failed, just as the prophet warned. This is a warning to us: past victories do not excuse future compromises.

14-Bible Reading Study Notes

2nd Chronicles Chapter 20

Final Thought The chapter closes with a reminder that the kingdom had peace because the Lord gave them rest. Rest comes when we trust God with our battles and surrender our strategies for His.

"The Lord is with you, while ye be with him; and if ye seek him, he will be found of you." (2 Chronicles 15:2)

May we be people who seek God first, stand firm in faith, and sing before the victory is seen.