

In The Gap

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"Faith is not intelligent understanding; faith is a deliberate commitment to the Person of Jesus, where I can see no way."

- Oswald Chambers

"After this, the Moabites and Ammonites...came to wage war against Jehoshaphat. Some people came and told Jehoshaphat, "A vast army is coming against you..."

2 Chronicles 20:1-2

Fast, Pray, Seek

"Alarmed, Jehoshaphat resolved to inquire of the Lord, and he proclaimed a fast for all Judah. The people of Judah came together to seek help from the Lord; they came from every town in Judah to seek him." **2 Chronicles 20:3-4**

"Lord, the God of our ancestors, are you not the God who is in heaven? You rule over all the kingdoms of the nations. Power and might are in your hand..." **2 Chronicles 20:6**

"Sooner or later God will bring self-sufficient people to the place where they have no resource but Him: no strength, no answers, nothing but Him. Without God's help, they're sunk."

Our Action is already Set

"If calamity comes upon us, whether the sword of judgment, or plague or famine, we will stand in your presence before this temple that bears your Name and will cry out to you in our distress, and you will hear us and save us." **2 Chronicles 20:9**

When We Don't Know What to Do, God Does

"For we have no power to face this vast army that is attacking us. We do not know what to do, but our eyes are on you." **2 Chronicles 20:12**

"All the men of Judah, with their wives and children and little ones, stood there before the Lord." **2 Chronicles 20:13**

God Speaks To Us and Through Us

Then the Spirit of the Lord came on Jahaziel, a Levite and descendant of Asaph, as he stood in the assembly. He said: "Listen, King Jehoshaphat and all who live in Judah and

Jerusalem! This is what the Lord says to you: 'Do not be afraid or discouraged because of this vast army. **2 Chronicles 20:14-15**

"For the battle is not yours, but God's. Tomorrow march down against them. They will be climbing up by the Pass of Ziz, and you will find them at the end of the gorge in the Desert of Jeruel. You will not have to fight this battle. Take up your positions; stand firm and see the deliverance the Lord will give you, Judah and Jerusalem. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged. Go out to face them tomorrow, and the Lord will be with you."
2 Chronicles 20:16-17

Our Problems become His Problems Our Battles become His Battles

THE LORD'S ANSWER

1. Don't be afraid or dismayed by what comes against you

- The battle is not yours but Gods
- Our problems become His problems
- Our battles become His battles

2. Come down to the cliff of Ziz and watch

- They were invited to be spectators rather than participants
- "You will not have to fight in this battle."
- "Stand still and see the salvation of the Lord."

3. Upon hearing this word from God

- The King bowed his face in the ground
- The people all fell before the Lord and worshipped
- The priests began to praise the Lord

The Power Worship and Praise in Uncertainty

"Jehoshaphat bowed down with his face to the ground, and all the people of Judah and Jerusalem fell down in worship before the Lord. Then some Levites from the Kohathites and Korahites stood up and praised the Lord, the God of Israel, with a very loud voice."
2 Chronicles 20:18-19

"Early in the morning they left for the Desert of Tekoa. As they set out, Jehoshaphat stood and said, 'Listen to me, Judah and people of Jerusalem! Have faith in the Lord your God and you will be upheld; have faith in his prophets and you will be successful.' After consulting the people, Jehoshaphat appointed men to sing to the Lord and to praise him for the splendor of his holiness as they went out at the head of the army, saying: 'Give thanks to the Lord, for his love endures forever.'"
2 Chronicles 20:20-21

"As they began to sing and praise, the Lord set ambushes against the men of Ammon and Moab and Mount Seir who were invading Judah, and they were defeated. The

Ammonites and Moabites rose up against the men from Mount Seir to destroy and annihilate them. After they finished slaughtering the men from Seir, they helped to destroy one another." **2 Chronicles 20:22-23**

8 Things that Praise Can do

1. Praise gets our focus off ourselves and back on God

"And my tongue shall speak of your righteousness and of your praise all the day long." **Psalms 35:28**

2. Praise brings us to a place of humility

"I will give you thanks in the great congregation: I will praise you among much people." **Psalms 35:18**

3. Praise makes the enemy flee

4. Praise leaves no room for complaining and negativity

"Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits, who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy." **Psalms 103:2-4**

"By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name." **Hebrews 13:15**

5. Praise makes room for God's blessings over our lives

"Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name!" **Psalms 100:4**

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ." **Ephesians 1:3**

6. Praise invites His presence

"He inhabits the praises of His people." **Psalms 22:3**

7. Our spirits are refreshed and renewed in His presence

"In His presence, there is fullness of joy." **Psalms 16:11**

8. It paves the way for God's power to be displayed and for miracles to happen

“Worship is not singing or merely going through motions there is power when we praise and worship, it is action, it is life-giving; it is powerful”

“When the men of Judah came to the place that overlooks the desert and looked toward the vast army, they saw only dead bodies lying on the ground; no one had escaped. So Jehoshaphat and his men went to carry off their plunder, and they found among them a great amount of equipment and clothing[d] and also articles of value—more than they could take away. There was so much plunder that it took three days to collect it.” [2 Chronicles 20:24-25](#)

“On the fourth day they assembled in the Valley of Berakah, where they praised the Lord. This is why it is called the Valley of Berakah to this day.” [2 Chronicles 20:26](#)

“Then, led by Jehoshaphat, all the men of Judah and Jerusalem returned joyfully to Jerusalem, for the Lord had given them cause to rejoice over their enemies. They entered Jerusalem and went to the temple of the Lord with harps and lyres and trumpets.” [2 Chronicles 20:27-28](#)

“The fear of God came on all the surrounding kingdoms when they heard how the Lord had fought against the enemies of Israel. And the kingdom of Jehoshaphat was at peace, for his God had given him rest on every side.” [2 Chronicles 20:29-30](#)

“Sometimes the enemies in life appear unbeatable. The odds seem too great and we feel like raising up the white flag of defeat. But often it is just at those moments of utter helplessness that we finally look to the Lord and see His Mighty Power.”

- C.J. Cairns

“We don’t know what to do, but our eyes are on You.”