### 2 Chronicles

## Chapter 20

1Then the sons of MoAb, the sons of AmMon, and some of the Minaeans marched against JehoShaphat in war.  
  
2And [the king’s messengers] spoke plainly to JehoShaphat and told him:  
  
 ‘A huge army has come against you from the other side of the sea and from Syria! Look! They’re already in AsaSan-Thamar (EnGedi)!’  
  
3Well, this frightened JehoShaphat and he went to seek [God’s] guidance, and he proclaimed a fast throughout Judah. 4So, all of Judah gathered to seek Jehovah’s help, coming from all the cities of the land.  
  
5Then JehoShaphat stood up before the entire assembly of Judah in JeruSalem, there at the Temple of Jehovah (in front of the new courtyard), 6and said:  
  
 ‘O Jehovah, the God of my fathers,  
  
 ‘Aren’t You the God of all that’s above the skies, and don’t You dominate all the kingdoms of the nations?  
  
 ‘Don’t Your hands have the strength to dominate everything, and can anyone really stand against You?  
  
 7‘You are Jehovah…  
  
 ‘You’re the One who destroyed those who lived in this land from before your people IsraEl, and it was You who gave this land to the offspring of AbraHam… This one whom loved you through that age.  
  
 8‘So, this is where we now live and where we’ve built a Most Holy Place to Your Name.  
  
 9‘Now, [the people have said]:  
  
 ‘Should any bad things come against us, such as war, judgments, plagues, or famines, we’ll all come and stand before You and You’ll save us; for the battle is Jehovah’s!’  
  
 10‘But look!  
  
 ‘The sons of AmMon, MoAb, and [people from] the mountains of SeIr... Those whose lands You refused to allow Your people to pass through as they returned from the land of Egypt and from which they were driven away, but whom we couldn’t conquer... 11[They] have now come here to drive us out of the inheritance that You gave to us!  
  
 12‘O Jehovah our God,  
  
 ‘Won’t You condemn them?  
  
 ‘We aren’t strong enough to resist such a huge army, and we don’t know what to do about them, so we’re all looking to You!’  
  
13Well at the time, all of Judah was standing there before Jehovah, including the women and children... 14Then the Breath of Jehovah came over OziEl (son of ZachariAh, a descendant of BenaiJah, son of EliEl, son of MathaniAh the Levite of the sons of Asaph) as he stood there in the assembly.  
  
15And he said:  
  
 ‘Listen all of Judah, as well as you who live in JeruSalem, and King JehoShaphat; for, this is Jehovah’s reply to you:  
  
 ‘Don’t be afraid of that huge army, because this battle isn’t yours, it belongs to God!  
  
 16‘Therefore, ready yourselves to march against them tomorrow!  
  
 ‘Look; they’ll be marching along the road to Asa, and you’ll find them camped beside the river in the JeriEl Desert. 17However, don’t attack them. Just stand there and watch! And then you’ll see that the deliverance of Jehovah is with you, O Judah and JeruSalem!  
  
 ‘Don’t worry and don’t be frightened; for when you march to meet them tomorrow, Jehovah will be with you!’  
  
18And at that, JehoShaphat bowed to his face, and all Judah and the people of JeruSalem fell to their faces before Jehovah. 19Then the Levites (the sons of KoHath and KorAh) got up and started praising Jehovah the God of IsraEl, calling out loudly towards the heavens.  
  
  
20So the next morning, everyone got up early and started their march into the Thecoe Desert. And as they were marching, JehoShaphat went ahead of them, and he shouted:  
  
 ‘Hear me, O Judah and those who live in JeruSalem!  
  
 ‘Trust in Jehovah and you’ll find that He can be trusted…  
  
 ‘Yes, trust in His Prophet and you’ll be blest!’  
  
21Then, as he led the people on, he sent the singers and [the Priests] who offer holy praise and acknowledgements to march ahead of the army shouting:  
  
 ‘Praise Jehovah and His mercy throughout the ages!’  
  
22And as they were shouting these praises and acknowledgements, Jehovah caused the sons of AmMon to turn against the MoAbites and the people of the mountains of SeIr as they were marching against Judah, and they all turned and ran away!  
  
23Then the sons of AmMon and the MoAbites attacked the people from the mountains of SeIr and killed everyone who lived there… And after that, they started fighting among themselves until they were all destroyed!  
  
24So when Judah reached the ridge along the edge of the desert, they looked down on that whole army and found them all lying on the ground dead…  
  
None were left!  
  
25Well at that, JehoShaphat and his people went down and looted all their possessions (there were many cattle, personal things, desirable things, and loot)… They took it all… It took three days for them to pick it all up, because there was so much to be collected!  
  
26And on the 4th day, they all assembled in the Valley of Blessings, which is what they started calling that place because Jehovah had blest them there… And it’s still called the Valley of Blessings to this day.  
  
27Then all the men of Judah marched back to JeruSalem joyfully, with JehoShaphat taking the lead; for everyone was so happy over what Jehovah had done to their enemies. 28And as they entered JeruSalem, they were playing stringed instruments, woodwinds, and trumpets, as they headed towards the Temple of Jehovah.  
  
  
29And after that, Jehovah brought a change of state upon all the kingdoms of the land; for when they heard that Jehovah was fighting against the enemies of IsraEl, 30they allowed the kingdom of JehoShaphat to have peace and rest all around.  
  
31JehoShaphat had started his reign over Judah when he was 35 years old, and he reigned in JeruSalem for 25 years. His mother’s name was Azuba, and she was the daughter of Sali.  
  
32JehoShaphat followed in the ways of his father Asa, and he never turned aside from doing what was upright before Jehovah. 33But the high places of worship were still there, and the people never straightened out their hearts to Jehovah, the God of their ancestors.  
  
34{Look!} The rest of the things that JehoShaphat said, from start to finish, have been written about by Jehu (son of AnaNi), who put it all in the scrolls of the kings of IsraEl.  
  
35However, later on, King JehoShaphat of Judah [displeased Jehovah] by working with King AhaziAh of IsraEl to build boats in EziOn GeBer, which they could sail to TarShish... 36So EliEzer (son of DodiJa from MarIsis) prophesied against JehoShaphat, saying this:  
  
 37‘Because you befriended AhaziAh, Jehovah has destroyed all your work and broken your boats to pieces!’  
  
And as a result, they never sailed to TarShish.