

The Battle is the Lord's II Chronicles 20 8/13-14/11

Leadership and The Battle for El Alamein

- Derek Prince: "Lord, give us leaders such that it will be for Your glory to give us victory through them."
- General Bernard Montgomery: "Let us ask the Lord, mighty in battle, to give us the victory."

Jehoshaphat: Changing the Course of History Through Prayer

- Jehoshaphat fit God's criteria for leadership in that he was JUST and GOD-FEARING

The Enemy's Threat and Jehoshaphat's Response II Chron. 20:1-4

- The enemy's threat was IMMINENT and it was CATASTROPHIC.
- What should distinguish us is THE WAY WE RESPOND to a crisis in our lives when it occurs.
- Jehoshaphat turned his ATTENTION to seek the Lord, proclaimed a FAST throughout all Judah and PRAYED TO GOD for help
- Fasting is a spiritual discipline that intensifies our prayers and GROWS and DEEPENS our life with God (Matt. 6)

Jehoshaphat's Prayer for Deliverance II Chronicles 20:5-13

- Jehoshaphat BELIEVED UNCONDITIONALLY in God's power to save. (Ps. 143:5)
- The crisis did not SHAPE Jehoshaphat into a man of God; rather, his existing walk with God allowed God to use him to shape the OUTCOME of the crisis and SAVE his people.
- Jehoshaphat knew God's PROMISES and PRAYED them back to God (II Chron. 7:12-14, Ps. 34:15-19)
- Jehoshaphat recognized that this was not just a PHYSICAL battle, but a SPIRITUAL one—and that prayer would release SPIRITUAL POWER to defeat their flesh and blood enemies
- As NT Christians, we are engaged in the same kind of spiritual warfare—except that the battle now is for the hearts, minds and ETERNAL DESTINIES of people. (II Cor. 10:3-5)

Jahaziel's Message from God II Chronicles 20:14-19

- God stands ready to FIGHT for us when we encounter crisis in our lives.
- If we give it to God in prayer, with THANKSGIVING, He will give us His PEACE. (Phil. 4:6-7)

God Fights the Battle II Chronicles 20:20-29

- God set the ambushes at the MOMENT that the people began praising Him in faith
- Praise, worship and thanksgiving attract the PRESENCE and POWER of God (Ps. 22:3, Heb. 13:15)
- God can intervene in complex situations in ways that no one can ANTICIPATE.
- God commands us to pray for our LEADERS and our GOVERNMENT (II Tim 2:1-4, Rom. 13:1, Prov. 21:1)

Where We Go From Here

- Jehoshaphat wasn't BORN prepared to be used by God, but he made DELIBERATE CHOICES that prepared him to be used as God's instrument to change history and save his people
- Paul's Challenge: Become "an instrument for noble purposes, made holy, useful to the Master and prepared to do any good work." (I Tim. 2:21)

Recommended for Further Reading:

Shaping History Through Prayer and Fasting – Derek Prince

The Power of Simple Prayer: How to Talk with God About Everything – Joyce Meyer

Life With God: Reading the Bible for Spiritual Transformation – Richard Foster

31 Days of Praise: Enjoying God Anew – Ruth and Warren Myers

The Spirit of the Disciplines: Understanding How God Changes Lives – Dallas Willard

Breaking Free: Making Liberty in Christ a Reality in Life – Beth Moore

Deep-Rooted in Christ: The Way of Transformation – Joshua Choonmin Kang

Jesus Calling: Enjoying Peace in His Presence – Sarah Young

