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## Daily Rice 2024 June 11

YouTube Prayer Link

In despair, there is still a source of victory

2 Chronicles chapter 20 tells the story of Jehoshaphat, king of Judah, who prayed to God for help in the face of the allied forces of Moab, Ammon, and Seir. Jehoshaphat was terrified when he learned that the three nations had formed an alliance against Judah, but he immediately called on Jehovah and declared a nationwide fast and prayer. In prayer, Jehoshaphat acknowledged God's power and majesty and prayed for God to deliver them. Jehoshaphat's choice to fast in the face of enemy forces showed that he was willing to lay down his strength and rely on the power of God. Fasting is not only a spiritual exercise, but also a super spiritual weapon, because it brings us back to a fundamental belief that victory or defeat is not in man, but in God's power. Jehoshaphat sought God's help by fasting in times of distress, for only God could save Judah at this time.

The secret of Jehoshaphat's prayer this time was:

Appeal to God's power: Praise and ask about God's nature and power.

Appeal to God's Love: Review and remind of God's history of election and grace.

Appeal to God's covenant keeping: Firmly believe in God's promises to the temple (the place of prayer).

Appeal to God's justice: count the ungrateful enemies and the innocent victims of the elect.

Appeal to God's mercy: admit that you are powerless to resist.

This kind of prayer is so attached to God's eternal power and divinity that God can't hear? This is the most accurate attitude to prayer. Only by admitting that he "does not know how to do" (v. 12) can one "look to God alone." Only by knowing that we are "powerless" can we take advantage of God's "mighty power" (v. 6). Only by knowing one's own weakness can it be possible to "let the power of Christ lay upon me" (2 Corinthians 12:9).

The same should be true for believers today in their lives and spiritual battles, that is, in the face of the suffering and evil forces of the world, they should abandon the human means of self-salvation and take up the "shield of faith" and "the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God" (Ephesians 6:16-17), and fight valiantly (Ephesians 6:10-20). The battle was won because of these three things: returning to fasting and seeking God, returning to the temple to meet God, and returning to praising God. In our troubled times, let us return to God together, not only to seek Him, but also to meet Him and to praise Him. God's promises and power are always beyond our imagination and abilities, and He will surely save us if we trust and seek His help (20:12).

In the face of a powerful enemy army, Jehoshaphat was at a loss for anything. Yet, even when he didn't know what to do, Jehoshaphat knew that there was another way to go, and that was to look to God, which was the simplest and easiest way to remember, but one that we often forget and ignore. Sadly, Jehoshaphat, though he looked to God alone in this war, did not look to God in all things, so that he went against God's will in building ships and going to Tarsh. It's also a reminder to us. In times of crisis, we can think of God as a rock, a shield, a tower, and nothing wrong with that, but do we look to God in everything? We often think of God as our ever-present help, but are we always heeding God's commands? Do we look to Him only when we need Him, or do we have the heart to look to Him at all times and accept His sovereignty over our lives, including our temperament, hobbies, time allocation, priorities, and direction in life..... Let's examine whether we are entrusting the victory or defeat to God. God saves not because man's prayer can shake God's hand and change God's will, but because man's prayer shows that they have learned the lesson of discipline.

Let's pray together:

Dear Heavenly Father, we can worship and glorify You in the midst of difficult times. Pray that the Lord will help us not to look at the dangers of circumstances and problems, so that we will be determined to seek, to keep our eyes fixed on God, and to ask God's mighty arm to support us, so that we can go through all the pressure and sorrow and enter the land of abundance. In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, amen.

Chapter 20 of the Chronicles of the Dynasties

20:1            After this, the Moabites and the Ammonites, and the Meunites, came together against Jehoshaphat.

20:2 And they came to Jehoshaphat, saying, "A great army is coming against you from the other side of Syria beyond the sea, and they are in Hazesun-Tamar as they are in Hazesun-Tamar.

20:3 Jehoshaphat was afraid, and he determined to seek Jehovah, and proclaimed a fast throughout Judah.

20:4 So the people of Judah met together and asked for help from Yahweh. And men came out from all the cities of Judah in search of Yahweh.

20:5 And Jehoshaphat stood in the congregation of Judah and Jerusalem, before the new house of the temple of Jehodah.

20:6 saying, Yahweh, God of our fathers, art thou not the god of heaven ? Aren't you the ruler of all nations ? There is great power in your hands , and no one can resist you .

20:7 O our God, did you not drive out the inhabitants of the land before your people Israelites, and give it to the descendants of your friend Abraham for an everlasting inheritance?

20:8 And they dwelt in the land, and they built a sanctuary for your name, saying,

20:9 If evil comes upon us, or a plague of swords or a famine, we will stand before this temple and cry unto thee in times of distress, and thou shalt hear and be saved, for thy name is in it.

20:10 When the Israelites went out of Egypt, you did not allow the Israelites to invade the Ammonites, nor the Moabites, nor the hill children of Seir, but the Israelites forsaken them, and did not destroy them.

20:11 Behold, how they have restored us, to come and drive us out of thy land, which thou hast given us for inheritance.

20:12 O our God, wilt thou not punish them? For we are powerless against the great army that is coming against us, and we do not know what to do, our eyes are on you.

20:13 And all Judah stood before Yahweh, and their babies, and their wives and children, and their children.

20:14 At that time the spirit of Yahweh came to Jahaziah the son of Zechariah, the great-grandson of Jereh, the son of Benaiah, the son of Zechariah, the son of Asaph, the son of Asaph, the son of Asaph, the Levites.

20:15 And he said unto them, Hearken, ye of Judah, and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and King Josphat. Thus saith unto you, Do not be frightened by the terror of this army. For victory or defeat is not yours, but God.

20:16 Tomorrow you will go down to meet the enemy, who are coming up from Zizpo, and you will meet them at the mouth of the valley before the wilderness of Jeruel.

20:17 O men of Judah and Jerusalem, this time do not fight, but stand in formation, and watch Jehova save you. Do not be afraid, nor be afraid. Tomorrow go out to meet the enemy, for the Lord is with you.

20:18 And Jehoshaphat fell on his face to the ground, and all Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem fell down before Yahweh, and bowed down before Yahweh.

20:19 And the Levites of the Kohathites and Korakites rose up, and praised the gods of Jehodes and of Rose-Israel with great voices.

20:20 The next morning they arose and went to and from the wilderness of Tekoa. And it came to pass as he departed, that Jehoshaphat stood, and said, Harken unto me, ye ye inhabitants of Jerusalem, and believe in Yahweh and your God shall stand. Whoever believes in his prophet will prosper.

20:21 And when Jehoshaphat had consulted with the people, he made up singers, and praised Yahweh, and put them on holy garments, and went before the army, and said to him, Praise Jehoah and Hwah, for his mercy endures for ever.

20:22 And it came to pass, while they were singing praises, that Jehovah sent an ambush against the children of Judah, and slew the children of Ammon, and the Moabites, and the children of Mount Seir, who had come against the Jews, and they were defeated.

20:23 For the children of Ammon and the Moabites arose, and smote the men that dwelt in mount Seir, and destroyed them. And when they had destroyed the people who dwelt in Mount Seir, they slew one after another.

20:24 And the men of Judah came to the watchtower in the wilderness, and looked upon the great army, and behold, the corpses were strewn over the earth, and none of them escaped.

20:25 And Jehoshaphat and his people came and took the goods of their enemies, and found among the corpses many treasures and treasures, which they stripped off so much that they could not take with them. because of so much , it was collected for three days.

20:26 On the fourth day they were gathered together in the valley of Bilakah, where they praised Yahweh. Therefore the name of that place is the Valley of Beragah, to this day.

20:27 And the children of Judah and Jerusalem returned to Jerusalem with joy, and Jehoshaphat led them. For Yahweh made them rejoice in the victory over their enemies.

20:28 They played harps, and played harps, and played trumpets, and came to Jerusalem, and entered the temple of Jehovah.

20:29 When the nations heard that Jehohua had defeated Israel's enemies, they were terrified.

20:30 So the kingdom of Jehoshaphat had peace because God had given him peace on all sides.

20:31 Jehoshaphat was king of Judah at the age of thirty and five at the age of Chinese New Year's Eve and reigned in Jerusalem for twenty-five years. His mother's name was Asaba, the daughter of Shilich.

20:32 And Jehoshaphat did not turn to the right or the left, but did what was right in the eyes of Yahweh.

20:33 but the high places have not been abolished, nor have the people set their minds to the gods of their fathers.

20:34 Now the rest of the acts of Jehoshaphat are written from beginning to end in the book of Jehu son of Hanani, and in the book of the kings of Israel.

20:35 Thereafter, King Jehoshaphat of Judah made friends with King Ahaziah of Israel. Ahaziah did wickedness greatly.

20:36 And the two kings joined together to build ships to go to Tashish, and they built them in Kamed.

20:37 Then Eliezer the son of Dodavah, the son of the children of Mareshah, prophesied to Jehoshaphat, saying, Because you have made peace with Ahaziah, Jehohua will destroy what you have made. Then the ship was wrecked and could not be used against him.

Several important passages from 2 Chronicles 20

Here are a few important passages from 2 Chronicles 20:

1. 2 Chronicles 20:3: "And Jehoshaphat was afraid, and he sought the Lord, and declared a fast." So Judah declared a fast throughout the land. "

This passage describes Jehoshaphat's reaction to the invasion of Moab and the Ammonites. Instead of immediately preparing for military action, he decided to seek God's help and seek God's guidance and protection through fasting and prayer.

Chapter 20 of 2 Chronicles tells the story of Jehoshaphat, king of Judah, who prayed to God in the face of the combined forces of Moab, Ammon, and Seir.

Jehoshaphat was terrified when he learned that the three nations had formed an alliance against Judah, but he immediately called on Jehovah and declared a nationwide fast and prayer.

Jehoshaphat confessed God's power and majesty in prayer and prayed for God to save them.

Finally, a prophet was inspired by God in their assembly to tell them not to worry, because this war is not theirs, but God's.

The next day, Jehoshaphat set out with his army, without any weapons or shields, but only musicians and praisers, who entered the battlefield in praise and worship of God. When Moab, Ammon, and Seir heard the Jews singing hymns, they began to kill each other, and eventually they were all destroyed, leaving not one of them to survive.

Jehoshaphat and his people returned to Jerusalem to celebrate the victory and spend seven days praising and worshipping God. This story teaches us that even in the face of seemingly impossible adversity, we should trust in God's power and salvation and pray to Him in praise and worship. God's promises and power are always beyond our imagination and abilities, and as long as we trust and seek His help, He will surely save us.

Several important passages from 2 Chronicles 20

Here is 2 Chronicles 20:12: "O our God, wilt thou not judge before these men? We are powerless against this army that is coming against us, we do not know what to do, and our eyes are on you. "

This is a passage in Jehoshaphat's prayer cry to God, in which he confessed his own powerlessness and powerlessness, and that only by relying on God could he overcome his enemies. He also expressed his faith and reliance in God to judge and deliver them.

3. 2 Chronicles 20:15: "This is what the Lord says: Do not be afraid or disafraid for this great army, for this war is not yours but God's. "

This is God's promise and guidance to Jehoshaphat. God told them not to be afraid, for this war is not their war, but God's. God Himself will deliver and protect, and they just need to trust and follow God's guidance.

4. 2 Chronicles 20:21: "Jehoshaphat and the people went into the wilderness, and found many dead bodies, none of them alive. "

It was the result of Jehoshaphat and his people witnessing God's miracle and deliverance. They went to the battlefield in faith and obedience, only to see that the enemy had been defeated by God and that none of them had survived. It was also an expression of Jehoshaphat and his people's faith and praise for God.