

“The Battle Is the Lord’s”

Faith Bible Church

April 5, 2009

2 Chronicles 20:1-6, 10-24, 29-31a, 32-33 (New American Standard)

¹ Now it came about after this that the sons of Moab and the sons of Ammon, together with some of the Meunites, came to make war against Jehoshaphat.

² Then some came and reported to Jehoshaphat, saying, "A great multitude is coming against you from beyond the sea, out of Aram and behold, they are in Hazazon-tamar (that is Engedi)." ³ And Jehoshaphat was afraid and turned his attention to seek the LORD; and proclaimed a fast throughout all Judah. ⁴ So Judah gathered together to seek help from the LORD; they even came from all the cities of Judah to seek the LORD. ⁵ Then Jehoshaphat stood in the assembly of Judah and Jerusalem, in the house of the LORD before the new court, ⁶ and he said, "O LORD, the God of our fathers, art Thou not God in the heavens? And art Thou not ruler over all the kingdoms of the nations? Power and might are in Thy hand so that no one can stand against Thee. ¹⁰ "And now behold, the sons of Ammon and Moab and Mount Seir, whom Thou didst not let Israel invade when they came out of the land of Egypt (they turned aside from them and did not destroy them), ¹¹ behold *how* they are rewarding us, by coming to drive us out from Thy possession which Thou hast given us as an inheritance. ¹² "O our God, wilt Thou not judge them? For we are powerless before this great multitude who are coming against us; nor do we know what to do, but our eyes are on Thee." ¹³ And all Judah was standing before the LORD, with their infants, their wives, and their children. ¹⁴

Then in the midst of the assembly the Spirit of the LORD came upon Jahaziel the son of Zechariah, the son of Benaiah, the son of Jeiel, the son of Mattaniah, the Levite of the sons of Asaph; ¹⁵ and he said, "Listen, all Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem and King Jehoshaphat: thus says the LORD to you, 'Do not fear or be dismayed because of this great multitude, for the battle is not yours but God's. ¹⁶ 'Tomorrow go down against them. Behold, they will come up by the ascent of Jezreel. ¹⁷ 'You *need* not fight in this *battle*; station yourselves, stand and see the salvation of the LORD on your behalf, O Judah and Jerusalem.' Do not fear or be dismayed; tomorrow go out to face them, for the LORD is with you." ¹⁸ And Jehoshaphat bowed his head with *his* face to the ground, and all Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem fell down before the LORD, worshiping the LORD. ¹⁹ And the Levites, from the sons of the Kohathites and of the sons of the Korahites, stood up to praise the LORD God of Israel, with a very loud voice. ²⁰ And they rose early in the morning and went out to the wilderness of Tekoa; and when they went out, Jehoshaphat stood and said, "Listen to me, O Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem, put your trust in the LORD your God, and you will be established. Put your trust in His prophets and succeed." ²¹ And when he had consulted with the people, he appointed those who sang to the LORD and those who praised *Him* in holy attire, as

they went out before the army and said, "Give thanks to the LORD, for His loving-kindness is everlasting." ²² And when they began singing and praising, the LORD set ambushes against the sons of Ammon, Moab, and Mount Seir, who had come against Judah; so they were routed. ²³ For the sons of Ammon and Moab rose up against the inhabitants of Mount Seir destroying *them* completely, and when they had finished with the inhabitants of Seir, they helped to destroy one another. ²⁴ When Judah came to the lookout of the wilderness, they looked toward the multitude; and behold, they *were* corpses lying on the ground, and no one had escaped. ²⁹ And the dread of God was on all the kingdoms of the lands when they heard that the LORD had fought against the enemies of Israel. ³⁰ So the kingdom of Jehoshaphat was at peace, for his God gave him rest on all sides. ³¹ Now Jehoshaphat reigned over Judah. He was thirty-five years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem twenty-five years. ³² And he walked in the way of his father Asa and did not depart from it, doing right in the sight of the LORD. ³³ The high places, however, were not removed; the people had not yet directed their hearts to the God of their fathers.

LIFE LESSONS FOR FACING IMPOSSIBLE SITUATIONS:

- I. When encountering an impossible situation, give _____ to seeking _____.
- II. The response of _____ sets the _____ which the people follow.
- III. Acknowledge openly your _____ upon _____.
- IV. The best preparation consists of _____, _____ and _____.
- V. The _____ over the situation should _____ God, not us.
- VI. Wholehearted _____ to God is an ongoing _____.