#### Prayer, Fasting and Praise

2Chron 20
Deliverance Rule #3

#### Deliverance Rules

- Rule #1 Realize That God Means For You To Be Where You Are
- Rule #2 Celebrate God's Purpose and Wait For Your Deliverance
- Rule #3 Prayer, Fasting and Praise

#### Today's Text

- 2 Chronicles 20:1 It came to pass after this also, that the children of Moab, and the children of Ammon, and with them other beside the Ammonites, came against Jehoshaphat to battle.
- 2 Then there came some that told Jehoshaphat, saying, There cometh a great multitude against thee from beyond the sea on this side Syria; and, behold, they be in Hazazontamar, which is Engedi.
- 3 And Jehoshaphat feared, and set himself to seek the LORD, and proclaimed a fast throughout all Judah.

#### **Exposition**

- Attacked by three enemies Moab, Ammon and Seir.
- Similar to being attacked by the lust of the eye, flesh and pride of life.
- Then there is nothing like being attacked suddenly, particularly by family.

#### **Exposition**

- These are the incestuous children of Lot, that is Moab and Ammon. They are accompanied by their cousins from Seir, the children of Esau.
- Seir, Moab and Ammon were people whom Israel, by God's command, in the past, had been merciful too.

- Whenever we face a severe crisis in life, we need either a way to escape the crisis or the inner strength and knowledge to conquer the crisis.
- But many times we have no means of escape and no clue how to deal with the emergency or predicament.
- It is then more than ever that we need the help of someone who has the power or resources to deliver us from the crisis.
- The crisis may be due to an accident, illness, death, a criminal act, a work related matter, or some failure on our part.

- But no matter what crises we may face, there is wonderful news.
- There is Someone who has the power and resources to deliver us,
- Someone who can make a way for us to escape.
- This Someone is God Himself.

- This is clearly seen in the story of the present Scripture.
- Unexpectedly and shockingly, Jehoshaphat faced the crisis of his life, that of an invasion by a coalition of three powerful nations.
- Standing all alone, the Southern Kingdom of Judah faced the distinct possibility that it would be utterly destroyed as a nation and taken over by foreigners.

- Only one hope for escape and deliverance existed.
- If Jehoshaphat and the people were willing to seek the Lord through *prayer and fasting* seek Him wholeheartedly—the Lord would have mercy upon them and deliver them.

#### Two or More in Unity

- 2 Chronicles 20:3 And Jehoshaphat feared, and set himself to seek the LORD, and proclaimed a fast throughout all Judah.
- 4 And Judah gathered themselves together, to ask *help* of the LORD: even out of all the cities of Judah they came to seek the LORD.

## Worshipping Prayer

- 2 Chronicles 20:5 And Jehoshaphat stood in the congregation of Judah and Jerusalem, in the house of the LORD, before the new court,
- 6 And said, O LORD God of our fathers, art not thou God in heaven? and rulest not thou over all the kingdoms of the heathen? and in thine hand is there not power and might, so that none is able to withstand thee?
- 7 Art not thou our God, who didst drive out the inhabitants of this land before thy people Israel, and gavest it to the seed of Abraham thy friend for ever?

# Supplicant Prayer

- 2 Chronicles 20:8 And they dwelt therein, and have built thee a sanctuary therein for thy name, saying,
- 9 If, when evil cometh upon us, as the sword, judgment, or pestilence, or famine, we stand before this house, and in thy presence, (for thy name is in this house,) and cry unto thee in our affliction, then thou wilt hear and help.
- 10 And now, behold, the children of Ammon and Moab and mount Seir, whom thou wouldest not let Israel invade, when they came out of the land of Egypt, but they turned from them, and destroyed them not;

#### The Earth Is Still Yours Prayer

 2 Chronicles 20:11 Behold, I say, how they reward us, to come to cast us out of thy possession, which thou hast given us to inherit.

#### What Is Our Own Understanding.

- We are being attacked by people we have previously been good too.
- We are outnumbered by the enemy
- We are small in our own eyes.
- We don't have the capacity or capability to win this fight
- We are all alone in this struggle
- No one cares whether we live or die
- Its useless to continue

#### Trusting In The Lord Prayer

 12 O our God, wilt thou not judge them? for we have no might against this great company that cometh against us; neither know we what to do: but our eyes are upon thee.

## The Spirit Moved and God Said

- 2 Chronicles 20:14 Then upon Jahaziel the son of Zechariah, the son of Benaiah, the son of Jeiel, the son of Mattaniah, a Levite of the sons of Asaph, came the Spirit of the LORD in the midst of the congregation;
- 15 And he said, Hearken ye, all Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem, and thou king Jehoshaphat, Thus saith the LORD unto you, Be not afraid nor dismayed by reason of this great multitude; for the battle is not yours, but God's.

# Set, Stand, And See God Being With you

 2 Chronicles 20:17 Ye shall not need to fight in this battle: set yourselves, stand ye still, and see the salvation of the LORD with you, O Judah and Jerusalem: fear not, nor be dismayed; to morrow go out against them: for the LORD will be with you.

#### Believing The Impossible

- 2 Chronicles 20:20 And they rose early in the morning, and went forth into the wilderness of Tekoa: and as they went forth, Jehoshaphat stood and said, Hear me, O Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem; Believe in the LORD your God, so shall ye be established; believe his prophets, so shall ye prosper.
- 21 And when he had consulted with the people, he appointed singers unto the LORD, and that should praise the beauty of holiness, as they went out before the army, and to say, Praise the LORD; for his mercy endureth for ever.

## **Doing Exploits**

- 2 Chronicles 20:22 And when they began to sing and to praise, the LORD set ambushments against the children of Ammon, Moab, and mount Seir, which were come against Judah; and they were smitten.
- 23 For the children of Ammon and Moab stood up against the inhabitants of mount Seir, utterly to slay and destroy them: and when they had made an end of the inhabitants of Seir, every one helped to destroy another.

#### Rewards For Faith

 2 Chronicles 20:25 And when Jehoshaphat and his people came to take away the spoil of them, they found among them in abundance both riches with the dead bodies, and precious jewels, which they stripped off for themselves, more than they could carry away: and they were three days in gathering of the spoil, it was so much.

