



SEEKING GOD IN TIMES OF DOUBT

2 CHRONICLES 20



2 CHRONICLES 20:3 GN

Jehoshaphat was frightened and prayed to the Lord for guidance. Then he gave orders for a fast to be observed throughout the country.





OBSERVATIONS

- He did not seek the advice and input from his generals
- He did not seek help from allied nations or neighbours eg Egypt or Assyria, which other kings had done.
- He did not work out a plan to defend the city or derail the enemy
- Instead, he prayed and sought God for guidance.



2 CHRONICLES 20:4 GN

From every city of Judah people hurried to Jerusalem to ask the Lord for guidance (inquire).





WHAT CAN WE LEARN?

- **God gives us small step of obedience. God does not give us all the answer at one time but bite size in order to keep us humble and dependent on him.**
- **God wanted the entire city to pray because this was a national crisis. It was not just a person's problem or just Jehoshaphat's problem but the whole nation was facing this crisis.**



WHAT CAN WE LEARN?

- **More importantly, God wanted the entire nation to know that it was Him who had delivered them out of the hand of the enemy and not the cleverness or the wisdom of King Jehoshaphat.**



2 CHRONICLES 20:6-12 GN

O Lord God of our ancestors, you rule in heaven over all the nations of the world. You are powerful and mighty, and no one can oppose you. You are our God. When your people Israel moved into this land, you drove out the people who were living here and gave the land to the descendants of Abraham, your friend, to be theirs forever.





2 CHRONICLES 20:6-12 GN

They have lived here and have built a temple to honor you, knowing that if any disaster struck them to punish them – a war, an epidemic, or a famine – then they could come and stand in front of this Temple where you are worshiped. They could pray to you in their trouble, and you would hear them and rescue them.





2 CHRONICLES 20:6-12 GN

Now the people of Ammon, Moab, and Edom have attacked us. When our ancestors came out of Egypt, you did not allow them to enter those lands, so our ancestors went around them and did not destroy them. This is how they repay us—they come to drive us out of the land that you gave us. You are our God! Punish them, for we are helpless in the face of this large army that is attacking us. We do not know what to do, but we look to you for help.”





ROMANS 8:28 NIV

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

CONDITION

- love God and walk in the purpose of God





JAMES 4:4-6 MSG

You're cheating on God. If all you want is your own way, flirting with the world every chance you get, you end up enemies of God and his way. And do you suppose God doesn't care? The proverb has it that "he's a fiercely jealous lover." And what he gives in love is far better than anything else you'll find. It's common knowledge that "God goes against the willful proud; God gives grace to the willing humble."





2 CHRONICLES 20:15-17 ERV

Listen to me King Jehoshaphat and everyone living in Judah and Jerusalem! The Lord says this to you: ‘Don’t be afraid or worry about this large army, because the battle is not your battle. It is God’s battle!’





2 CHRONICLES 20:15-17 ERV

Tomorrow, they will come up through the Ziz Pass. You must go down to them. You will find them at the end of the valley on the other side of the desert of Jeruel. You will not have to fight this battle. Just stand there and watch the Lord save you. Judah and Jerusalem, don't be afraid. Don't worry, because the Lord is with you. So go out to stand against those people tomorrow.





2 CHRONICLES 20:22-23

As they began to sing and to praise God, the Lord set an ambush for the army from Ammon, Moab, and Mount Seir who had **come to attack Judah. The enemy was defeated! The Ammonites and the Moabites started to fight the men from Mount Seir. After they killed them, the Ammonites and Moabites turned on themselves and killed each other.**



FINDING CONFIDENCE AND SECURITY IN GOD IN THE TIME OF DOUBT

- **Surrender your life to God and walk intimately with Him (prerequisite) – Know His Word and Spirit. Repent and return to the Lord if you are not. You receive all things through Him and not apart from Him.**
- **When we are assailed by doubts and facing doubtful circumstances, seek God's face and guidance**

FINDING CONFIDENCE AND SECURITY IN GOD IN THE TIME OF DOUBT

- **Seek God for His sake and not for your problems**
- **Act in obedience to what small step God may give you.**
- **Receive from God, the word or the promise for you. Put your faith in the word and not waver because of what you see or perceived. Peter walking on water (Matt 14:28-32), John doubting Jesus (John 11:2-6)**

FINDING CONFIDENCE AND SECURITY IN GOD IN THE TIME OF DOUBT

- **Focus on praise, thanksgiving and worship**
 - **Praise is a choice not a feeling (Ps 145:1)**
 - **Verbalize specific evidence of God's greatness (v3-8)**
– tell, speak, meditate, proclaim, celebrate, sing of His works, acts, deeds, goodness, righteousness.
 - **God's character and adore Him - Who he is, praise for who he is**
- **Act in faith whatever God asks you to do.**

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JAMES 1:6-8

But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavers is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord. A double-minded man is unstable in all his ways.

