

JEHOSHAPHAT'S VICTORY

II Chronicles 19 – 20

By Tom Taylor

Jehoshaphat became King of Judah at age 35, and ruled for 25 years
He established an educational system, reestablished justice in the land , reformed the
legal system

The nations of Moab, Ammon and Edom decided to fight against Jehoshaphat
And, when a massive army moved from the east side of the Dead Sea to the west side's
En Gedi,

It struck fear in Jehoshaphat's heart, but he was determined to seek the Lord's help

He made a Proclamation to the nation:

Saying that all were to fast and seriously seek the Lord, and His favor
The people faithfully responded...Many traveled to Jerusalem to meet and pray with their
King

They went to the Temple and, with their families, stood before the Lord
(And I think the Lord must have been pleased – for the people had done the Right Thing)

Jehoshaphat stood before his people and prayed to the Lord:

“Oh, Lord, You're the God of heaven...the one Who gave this land to Abraham”
“You control all power and might. You said we're to trust You when we're in trouble.”

A massive army is here to destroy us
We've no power to fight against them
Lord, we don't know what else to do

There's nothing else to do, Lord, but to look to You!

Suddenly the Spirit of God spoke through a prophet, who said:

“Don't be afraid of the multitude...Discouraged? Do not be ~

This is not your battle, but mine

“Tomorrow, go against them” – and see what you will see

“You will see them coming, but you don't have to fight....”

“Get in position, ... stand still –

The Lord's salvation you will see,”... right there in broad daylight

“Do not be afraid ... the Lord is with you.”

*(Is the Lord with **you**? Will He always be? Yes, He surely will!)*

Jehoshaphat bowed down...put his face right to the ground

And all the people did the very same

Then, and there – without a care – their worship the only sound

The Levites suddenly stood and began loudly praising the Lord, glorifying His Name!

Early next morning they went out to meet the enemy face-to-face
Jehoshaphat encouraged them: Believe in the Lord, for you are in His loving embrace
He then appointed some people to sing for the Lord, and the army followed them!
“Give thanks to the Lord...His love endures forever” - they sang their praises to Him ~

As the people shouted and praised the Lord, suddenly, the enemy became confused
Ammonites and Moabites turned against (i.e., destroyed) the Edomites
(Possibly Jehoshaphat was a bit bemused?)

Then they turned on one another, and killed and killed . . . ‘til ev’ry man was dead
When Judah arrived at the site, it was more than clear: the Lord had done just what He
had said ~

Jehoshaphat told his people to gather all valuables from the dead
The enemy had carried many valuables into battle –
from the bottom of their feet, to the tiptop of their head

The people gathered valuables for three days – ‘til they couldn’t carry anymore
They all got together on the Fourth Day, just to praise the Lord!
They then returned to Jerusalem, with Jehoshaphat in the lead
All gathered at the Temple to joyfully praise the Lord for His great Deed!

All the nations around Judah heard of the great victory – what the Lord had done
And they were all terrified of the Lord – so how many planned to attack Jehoshaphat?
Yeah, that’s right – can you say “None!!” ?
So - there was Peace in the land . . . and all was quiet