



"Faith in the Reign of Jehoshaphat"

Living by Faith Series

January 21, 2023

Those who live by faith... Psalm 105:3-4

1. ...set their heart to _____ the Lord. Psalm 105:3-4

- *[Following the battle in which Ahab was killed] Jehoshaphat the king of Judah returned in safety to his house in Jerusalem. 2 Jehu the son of Hanani the seer went out to meet him and said to King Jehoshaphat, "Should you help the wicked and love those who hate the LORD and so [bring] wrath on yourself from the LORD? 3 "But there is [some] good in you, for you have removed the Asheroth from the land and **you have set your heart to seek God.**" 4 So **Jehoshaphat** lived in Jerusalem and went out again among the people from Beersheba to the hill country of Ephraim and brought them back to the LORD, the God of their fathers. [2Ch 19:1-4]*
- *3 The LORD was with **Jehoshaphat** because he followed the example of his father David's earlier days and did not seek the Baals, 4 but **sought the God of his father**, followed His commandments, and did not act as Israel did. 5 So the LORD established the kingdom in his control, and all Judah brought tribute to Jehoshaphat, and he had great riches and honor. 6 **He took great pride in the ways of the LORD** and again removed the high places and the Asherim from Judah. [2Ch 17:3-6 NASB95]*

1. ...take great pride in God's _____.

- *4 So **Jehoshaphat** lived in Jerusalem and went out again among the people from Beersheba to the hill country of Ephraim and brought them back to the LORD, the God of their fathers. [2Ch 19:4]*
- *7 Then in the third year of his reign **he sent his officials**, ... to teach in the cities of Judah; 8 and with them **the Levites**,... and with them ... **the priests**. 9 **They taught in Judah**, [having] the book of the law of the LORD with them; and they went throughout all the cities of Judah and taught **among the people**. [2Ch 17:7-9 NASB95]*

2. ...take their fears to their _____.

✳ **Make their first step to bring their _____ before the Lord.**

*10 "Now behold, **the sons of Ammon and Moab and Mount Seir**, whom You did not let Israel invade when they came out of the land of Egypt (they turned aside from them and did not destroy them), 11 see [how] they are rewarding us by coming to drive us out from Your possession which You have given us as an inheritance. 12 "O our God, will You 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 You.**"*

✳ **Proclaim a fast with those in _____.**

*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 **Jehoshaphat was afraid and turned his attention to seek the LORD**, and **proclaimed a fast** throughout all Judah.. [2Ch 20:1-3]*

✳ **Gather the endangered _____ to pray and fast.**

4 So **Judah gathered together to seek help from the LORD; they even came from all the cities of Judah to seek the LORD.** [2Ch 20:4]

3. Seek God in prayer in accord with His _____.

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, are You not God in the heavens? And are You not **ruler over all the kingdoms of the nations?** Power and might are in Your hand so that **no one can stand against You.** [2 Chron 20:5-6]

4. Seek God in prayer in accord with His _____.

7 "Did You not, O our God, drive out the inhabitants of this land before Your people Israel and give it to the descendants of Abraham Your friend forever? 8 "They have lived in it, and have built You a sanctuary there for Your name, saying, 9 'Should evil come upon us, the sword, [or] judgment, or pestilence, or famine, **we will stand before this house and before You** (for Your name is in this house) **and cry to You in our distress, and You will hear and deliver [us.]'** [2 Chron 20:7-9]

2. ...appeal to His Omnipotence. = " _____ "

6 and he said, "O LORD, the God of our fathers, are You not God in the heavens? And are You not ruler over all the kingdoms of the nations? **Power and might are in Your hand so that no one can stand against You.** [2 Chron 20:6]

1. ...know that God establishes and destroys _____.

7 "At one moment I might speak concerning a nation or concerning a kingdom to uproot, to pull down, or to destroy [it;] 8 **if that nation against which I have spoken turns from its evil, I will relent concerning the calamity I planned to bring on it.** 9 "Or at another moment I might speak concerning a nation or concerning a kingdom to build up or to plant [it;] 10 if it does evil in My sight by not obeying My voice, then I will think better of the good with which I had promised to bless it. [Jer 18:7-10 NASB95]

2. ...know that if the battle is God's the victory is _____.

15 and he [Jahaziel the prophet] 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 Ziz**, and you will find them at the end of the valley in front of the wilderness of Jeruel. 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." [2 Chron 20:15-17]

3. ...by _____ worship and praise God.

18 **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 **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.** [2 Chron 20:18-19]

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4. ...by advanced _____ go out attributing victory to God.

20 **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 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 lovingkindness is everlasting." 22 **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.** [2 Chron 20:20-22]

Conclusion

25 When Jehoshaphat and his people came to take their spoil, they found much among them, [including] goods, garments and valuable things which they took for themselves, more than they could carry. And **they were three days taking the spoil because there was so much.** 26 Then on the fourth day they assembled in the valley of Beracah, for there they blessed the LORD. Therefore they have named that place "The Valley of Beracah" until today. 27 Every man of Judah and Jerusalem returned with Jehoshaphat at their head, returning to Jerusalem with joy, for the LORD had made them to rejoice over their enemies. 28 They came to Jerusalem with harps, lyres and trumpets to the house of the LORD. 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. [2Ch 20:1-30 NASB95]

Those who live by faith experience joy and blessing

30 ...those who honor Me I will honor, and those who despise Me will be lightly esteemed. [1Sa 2:30]
3 'Call to Me, and I will answer you, and show [tell, declare to] you great and mighty things, which you do not know.' [Jer 33:3 NKJV]