

LISTENING MATTERS WHEN PRAYING



2 CHRONICLES 20:1-19

The Sit Rep

The enemy at the (not Bill) Gates.

“After this, the armies of the Moabites, Ammonites, and some of the Meunites declared war on Jehoshaphat. ² Messengers came and told Jehoshaphat, “A vast army, a great multitude from Edom is marching against you from beyond the Dead Sea. They are already at ... En-gedi.



The Sit Rep

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³ Jehoshaphat was shaken, alarmed terrified by this news and resolved, with a sense of urgency, to beg the LORD for guidance. He also ordered everyone in Judah to begin fasting. ⁴ So people from all the towns of Judah came to Jerusalem to seek the LORD's help."



The Sit Rep

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⁵ (When they had gathered together) Jehoshaphat stood before the community of Judah and Jerusalem in front of the new courtyard at the Temple of the LORD, (and) ⁶ He prayed.”



The People Respond

¹² O our God, won't you stop them? We are powerless against this vast mighty army that is about to attack us. We do not know what to do, but we are looking to you for help."

¹³ As all the men of Judah stood before the LORD with their little ones, wives, and children ...



The People Respond

“I will climb up to my watchtower and stand at my guard post. There I will wait to see what the LORD says and how he will answer my complaint.”

Habakkuk 2:1



God Speaks

¹⁴ the Spirit of the LORD came upon one of the men standing there. His name was Jahaziel ... ¹⁵ He said, "Listen, all you people of Judah and Jerusalem! Listen, King Jehoshaphat! This is what the LORD says: Do not be afraid! Don't be discouraged by this mighty army, for the battle is not yours, but God's.

God Speaks

¹⁶ Tomorrow, march out against them ... ¹⁷ But you will not even need to fight. Take your positions; then stand still and watch the LORD's victory. He is with you, O people of Judah and Jerusalem. Do not be afraid or discouraged. Go out against them tomorrow, for the LORD is with you!"

APPLICATION

When you are walking with God in obedience, it doesn't mean your troubles are over. In fact, it might be just the opposite.

When it gets really bad, gather your people around you

When it gets really bad, be earnest in fasting and prayer

When you pray, remind God of His past acts and His promises

When you praise God, He moves in ways beyond what we can even imagine



APPLICATION

When told that prayer's primary purpose is not to get an answer but to allow God to change you and your perspective, don't fall for this completely. God invites us to ASK!

Whether your life circumstances get really bad or not, develop a habit of listening to God. Seriously, don't wait to for life to get really bad to start listening to God when you pray.

APPLICATION

To be Spirit led, you must be Spirit fed!

- Get into and reflect on God's Word
- Make silence a priority and a part of your time with God
- Do what God says