

How Desperate Are We?

2 Chronicles 20

05/29/2022

Praying Our Way to Pentecost Week 5

*“After this, the Moabites and Ammonites with some of the Meunites came to wage war against Jehoshaphat.”... “Alarmed, Jehoshaphat resolved to inquire of the Lord, and he proclaimed a fast for all Judah. The people of Judah came together to seek help from the Lord; indeed, they came from every town in Judah to seek him.” - 2 Chronicles 20:1-4*

WHAT DID JEHOSEPHATH DO?

1. When the UNTHINKABLE is happening, he RESOLVED to pray.
2. His prayer TOOK a DISTINCTIVE shape.
  - A. He RECITES the CHARACTER of God.

*“Lord, the God of our ancestors, are you not the God who is in heaven? You rule over all the kingdoms of the nations. Power and might are in your hand, and no one can withstand you.” 2 Chronicles 20:6*

- B. He TRACES God’s FAITHFUL track record.

*Our God, did you not drive out the inhabitants of this land before your people Israel and give it forever to the descendants of Abraham your friend? They have lived in it and have built in it a sanctuary for your Name.” - 2 Chronicles 20:7-8*

- C. He LAYS out his REQUEST.

*“If calamity comes upon us, whether the sword of judgment, or plague or famine, we will stand in your presence before this temple that bears your Name and will cry out to you in our distress, and you will hear us and save us.” – 2 Chronicles 20:9*

- D. He PRAYS with HUMILITY.

*“For we have no power to face this vast army that is attacking us We do not know what to do, but our eyes are on you. All the men of Judah, with their wives and children and little ones, stood there before the Lord... Do not be afraid or discouraged because of this vast army. For the battle is not yours, but God’s.” - 2 Chronicles 20:12-3, 15, 17*

3. When he prayed, God’s SPIRIT came and POINTED the way FORWARD!
4. RADICAL obedience was the RESPONSE to God’s Spirit.

*“Jehoshaphat bowed with his face to the ground, and all the people of Judah and Jerusalem fell down in worship before the Lord... As they began to sing and praise, the Lord set ambushes against the men of Ammon and Moab and Mount Seir who were invading Judah, and they were defeated.” - 2 Chronicles 20:20,22*

The power of God transformed a valley of certain death and destruction into a valley of praise!