After this, the Moabites and Ammonites with some of the Meunites came to wage war against Jehoshaphat. 2 Some people came and told Jehoshaphat, “A vast army is coming against you from Edom, from the other side of the Dead Sea. It is already in Hazezon Tamar” (that is, En Gedi). 3 Alarmed, Jehoshaphat resolved to inquire of the Lord, and he proclaimed a fast for all Judah. 4 The people of Judah came together to seek help from the Lord; indeed, they came from every town in Judah to seek him. 5 Then Jehoshaphat stood up in the assembly of Judah and Jerusalem at the temple of the Lord in the front of the new courtyard 6 and said:
“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. 7 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? 8 They have lived in it and have built in it a sanctuary for your Name, saying, 9 ‘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.’

10 “But now here are men from Ammon, Moab and Mount Seir, whose territory
you would not allow Israel to invade when they came from Egypt; so they
turned away from them and did not destroy them. 11 See how they are repaying
us by coming to drive us out of the possession you gave us as an inheritance.
12 Our God, will you not judge them? 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.” 13 All the men of Judah, with their wives and children and little ones, stood
there before the Lord. 14 Then the Spirit of the Lord came on Jahaziel son of
Zechariah, the son of Benaiah, the son of Jeiel, the son of Mattaniah, a Levite
and descendant of Asaph, as he stood in the assembly. 15 He said: “Listen, King
Jehoshaphat and all who live in Judah and Jerusalem! This is what the Lord says
to you: ‘Do not be afraid or discouraged because of this vast army. For the
battle is not yours, but God’s. 16 Tomorrow march down against them. They will
be climbing up by the Pass of Ziz, and you will find them at the end of the
gorge in the Desert of Jeruel.

2 Chronicles 20:10–16 (NIV)

17 You will not have to fight this battle. Take up your positions; stand firm and see
the deliverance the Lord will give you, Judah and Jerusalem. Do not be afraid; do
not be discouraged. Go out to face them tomorrow, and the Lord will be with
you.’ ”
18 Jehoshaphat bowed down with his face to the ground, and all the people of
Judah and Jerusalem fell down in worship before the Lord. 19 Then some Levites
from the Kohathites and Korahites stood up and praised the Lord, the God of
Israel, with a very loud voice. 20 Early in the morning they left for the Desert of
Tekoa. As they set out, Jehoshaphat stood and said, “Listen to me, Judah and
people of Jerusalem! Have faith in the Lord your God and you will be upheld;
have faith in his prophets and you will be successful.” 21 After consulting the
people, Jehoshaphat appointed men to sing to the Lord and to praise him for the
splendor of his holiness as they went out at the head of the army, saying: “Give
thanks to the Lord, for his love endures forever.” 22 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. 23 The Ammonites and
Moabites rose up against the men from Mount Seir to destroy and annihilate
them. After they finished slaughtering the men from Seir, they helped to destroy

24 When the men of Judah came to the place that overlooks the desert and
looked toward the vast army, they saw only dead bodies lying on the ground; no
one had escaped. 25 So Jehoshaphat and his men went to carry off their plunder,
and they found among them a great amount of equipment and clothing and
also articles of value—more than they could take away. There was so much
plunder that it took three days to collect it. 26 On the fourth day they assembled
in the Valley of Berakah, where they praised the Lord. This is why it is called the
Valley of Berakah to this day.
27 Then, led by Jehoshaphat, all the men of Judah and Jerusalem returned joyfully
to Jerusalem, for the Lord had given them cause to rejoice over their enemies.
28 They entered Jerusalem and went to the temple of the Lord with harps and
lyres and trumpets.
29 The fear of God came on all the surrounding kingdoms when they heard how
the Lord had fought against the enemies of Israel. 30 And the kingdom of
Jehoshaphat was at peace, for his God had given him rest on every side.

2 Chronicles 20:24–30 (NIV)

3 Jehoshaphat was terrified by this news and begged 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.

2 Chronicles 20:3–4 (NLT)



Breakthrough comes when we have a deep conviction that we are utterly helpless without the Lord.



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.

2 Chronicles 20:12b (NIV)



The Declaration of Dependance

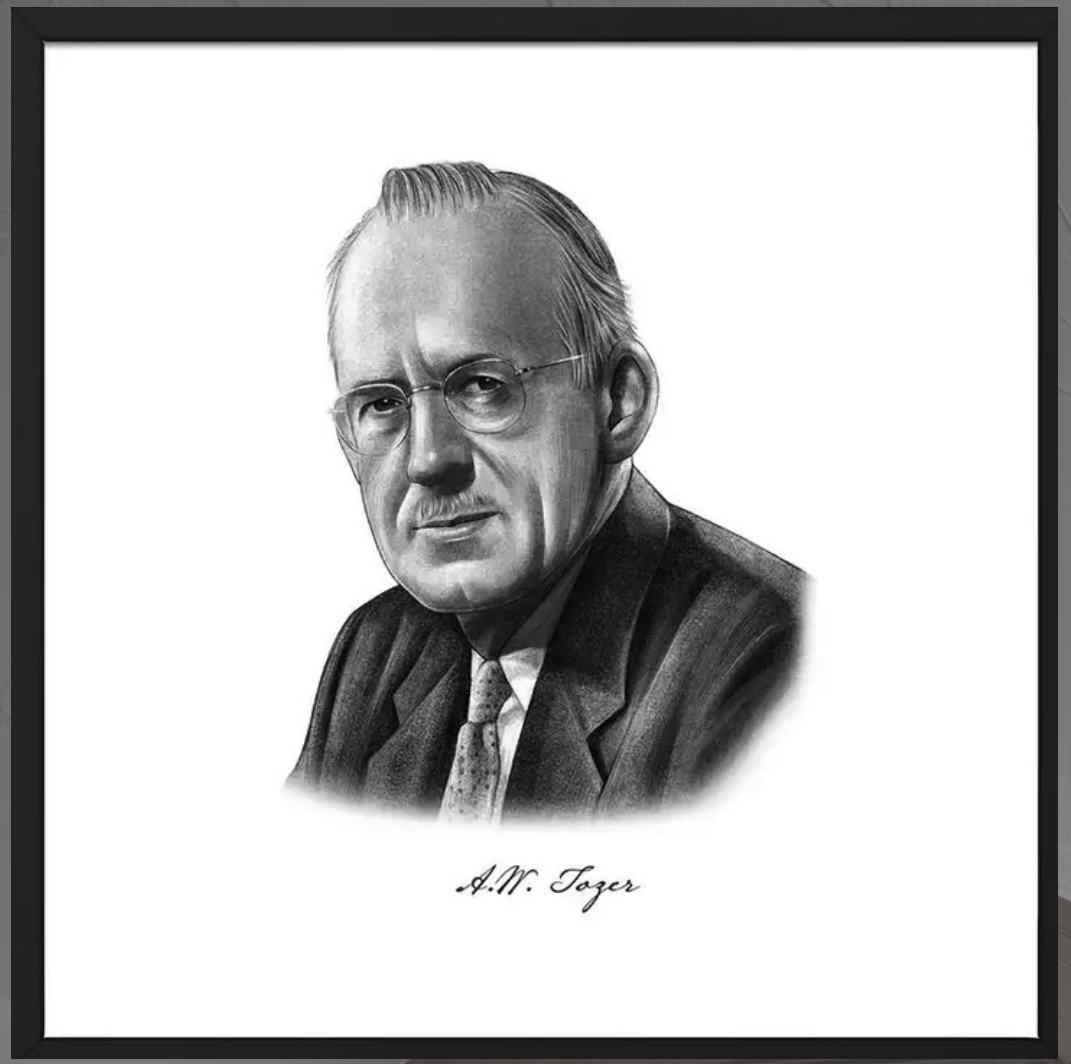


Depend on God’s Sovereignty

5 Then Jehoshaphat stood up in the assembly of Judah and
Jerusalem at the temple of the Lord in the front of the new
courtyard 6 and said:
“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 20:5–6 (NIV)





God's sovereignty is the attribute by which He rules His entire creation, and to be sovereign God must be all-knowing, all-powerful, and absolutely free. The reasons are these: Were there even one data of knowledge, however small, un-known to God, His rule would break down at that point. To be Lord over all the creation, He must possess all knowledge. And were God lacking one infinitesimal fragment of power, that lack would end His reign and undo His kingdom; that one stray atom of power would belong to someone else and God would be a limited ruler and hence not sovereign. — A.W. Tower, The Knowledge of the Holy

Depend on God's Friendship

7 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?***

2 Chronicles 20:7 (NIV)



Praise is the Exercise of Our Dependence

21 After consulting the people, Jehoshaphat appointed men to sing to
the Lord and to praise him for the splendor of his holiness as they
went out at the head of the army, saying: “Give thanks to the Lord, for
his love endures forever.” 22 *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 20:21–22 (NIV)

