



Pastor Joe's Sermon Listening Guide



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All Scriptures are printed verbatim with translations noted. • Pastor Joe's email is joe@southreno.com.



A. Introduction

The Date: 750 BC

The Place: Jerusalem

The Man: Jehoshaphat

The Crisis: A surprise attack from vicious armies from the southeast.

The Point: It's personal—it's the true story of one man's faith in a crisis

The Insight: In Hebrew, the word for praise is "ha-lal" (הלל), and the word for thanksgiving is "to-dal" (תודה)—both are closely related. One more word completes the trio, "Ya-dal" (נדָה) which pictures open hands that throw worshipful thanksgiving to God.



B. Jehoshaphat's Story

What do we do when we face "vast armies?"

1. Release it to the Lord.

2 Chronicles 20:3–4, HCSB –³ Jehoshaphat was afraid, and he resolved to seek the LORD. Then he proclaimed a fast for all Judah, ⁴ who gathered to seek the LORD. They even came from all the cities of Judah to seek Him.

Deuteronomy 7:9, NIV84 –⁹ Know therefore that the LORD your God is God; He is the faithful God, keeping His covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love Him and keep His commands.

2. Realize your own inadequacy.

2 Chronicles 20:12, HCSB –¹² Our God, will You not judge them? For we are powerless before this vast number that comes to fight against us. We do not know what to do, but we look to You.

Zechariah 4:6, NLT –⁶ Then he said to me, "This is what the LORD says to Zerubbabel: It is not by force nor by strength, but by my Spirit, says the LORD of Heaven's Armies.

3. Rely on God's resources.

2 Chronicles 20:15, NASB95 –¹⁵ and he [the prophet Jahaziel] 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.

2 Chronicles 20:15, MSG –¹⁵ He said, "Attention everyone—all of you from out of town, all you from Jerusalem, and you King Jehoshaphat—GOD's word: Don't be afraid; don't pay any mind to this vandal horde. This is God's war, not yours.

4. Raise up praise and thanksgiving in advance.

2 Chronicles 20:21, NKJV –²¹ And when he had consulted with the people, he appointed those who should sing to the LORD, and who should praise the beauty of holiness, as they went out before the army and were saying: "Praise the LORD, For His mercy endures forever."

2 Chronicles 20:21, NLT –²¹ After consulting the people, the king appointed singers to walk ahead of the army, singing to the LORD and praising Him for His holy splendor. This is what they sang: "Give thanks to the LORD; His faithful love endures forever!"



C. Application

Four simple questions for you this Thanksgiving season:

1. Who do you trust?
2. How do you see yourself?
3. What do you do in a crisis—when the battle is on?
4. What does God do?