# Your Best Summer Spiritually Father's Day 2 Chronicles 20:1-30

#### 2 Chronicles 20:1-2 (NLT)

After this, the armies of the Moabites, Ammonites, and some of the Meunites declared war on Jehoshaphat. <sup>2</sup> Messengers came and told Jehoshaphat, "A vast army from Edom is marching against you from beyond the Dead Sea. They are already at Hazazon-tamar." (This was another name for En-gedi.)

## Ephesians 6:12 (ESV)

<sup>12</sup> For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.

IT'S TIME TO REALIZE THE SPIRITUAL WAR

#### 2 Chronicles 20:3-4 (NLT)

<sup>3</sup> Jehoshaphat was <u>terrified by this news and begged</u> <u>the Lord for guidance</u>. He also ordered everyone in Judah to begin fasting. <sup>4</sup> So people from all the towns of Judah came to Jerusalem to seek the Lord's help.

A MOVEMENT CAN START WITH ONE MAN MAKING A SPIRITUAL MOVE

#### 2 Chronicles 20:3-4 (NLT)

<sup>3</sup> Jehoshaphat was terrified by this news and begged the Lord for guidance. He also <u>ordered everyone in Judah</u> to begin fasting. <sup>4</sup> So people from all the towns of Judah came to Jerusalem to seek the Lord's help.

• ... it says all the people from the towns Judah came to Jerusalem to seek the Lord.

WHEN MEN IN HUMILITY SPIRITUALLY LEAD, PEOPLE WILL FOLLOW

#### 2 Chronicles 20:4 (NLT)

<sup>4</sup> So people from all the towns of Judah came to Jerusalem to seek the Lord's help.

WHEN MEN LEAD SPIRITUALLY, THEY DON'T BECOME THE HERO'S, THEY MERELY HELP PEOPLE GET TO GOD!

#### 2 Chronicles 20:5-12 (NLT)

<sup>5</sup> Jehoshaphat stood before the community of Judah and Jerusalem in front of the new courtyard at the Temple of the Lord. <sup>6</sup> He prayed, "O Lord, God of our ancestors, you alone are the God who is in heaven. You are ruler of all the kingdoms of the earth. You are powerful and mighty; no one can stand against you! <sup>7</sup> O our God, did you not drive out those who lived in this land when your people Israel arrived? And did you not give this land forever to the descendants of your friend Abraham? <sup>8</sup> Your people settled here and built this Temple to honor your name. <sup>9</sup> They said, 'Whenever we are faced with any calamity such as war, plague, or famine, we can come to stand in your presence before this Temple where your name is honored. We can cry out to you to save us, and you will hear us and rescue us.' <sup>10</sup> "And now see what the armies of Ammon, Moab, and

Mount Seir are doing. You would not let our ancestors invade those nations when Israel left Egypt, so they went around them and did not destroy them. <sup>11</sup> Now see how they reward us! For they have come to throw us out of your land, which you gave us as an inheritance. <sup>12</sup> O our God, won't you stop them? We are powerless against this mighty army that is about to attack us. We do not know what to do, but we are looking to you for help."

#### 3 WAYS TO PRAY FOR RESCUE:

- PRAY PROMISES BACK TO GOD
- PRAY SPECIFICALLY AGAINST OUR ENEMY
- PRAY FOR GOD'S HELP

#### 2 Chronicles 20:13 (NLT)

<sup>13</sup> As <u>all the men of Judah stood before the Lord</u> with their little ones, wives, and children...

# IT'S TIME FOR MEN TO BRING THEIR FAMILIES BEFORE THE LORD

#### 2 Chronicles 20:14-17A (NLT)

<sup>14</sup> the Spirit of the Lord came upon one of the men standing there. His name was Jahaziel son of Zechariah, son of Benaiah, son of Jeiel, son of Mattaniah, a Levite who was a descendant of Asaph. <sup>15</sup> 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. <sup>16</sup> Tomorrow, march out against them. You will find them coming up through the ascent of Ziz at the end of the

valley that opens into the wilderness of Jeruel.<sup>17</sup> But you will not even need to fight.

## WHEN MEN MAKE THE RIGHT MOVES, THEY OFTEN END UP IN A GOD MOMENT

#### 2 Chronicles 20:17-20 (NLT)

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!" 18 Then King Jehoshaphat bowed low with his face to the ground. And all the people of Judah and Jerusalem did the same, worshiping the Lord. 19 Then the Levites from the clans of Kohath and Korah stood to praise the Lord, the God of Israel, with a very loud shout. 20 Early the next morning the army of Judah went out into the wilderness of Tekoa. On the way Jehoshaphat stopped and said, "Listen to me, all you people of Judah and Jerusalem! Believe in the Lord your God, and you will be able to stand firm. Believe in his prophets, and you will succeed."

#### BELIEVE WHAT HE'S SAID AND LIVE LIKE IT'S SO

#### 2 Chronicles 20:21-22 (NLT)

<sup>21</sup> 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!" <sup>22</sup> At the very moment they began to sing and give praise, the Lord caused the armies of Ammon, Moab, and Mount Seir to start fighting among themselves.

#### WHEN MEN WORSHIP IT'S WARFARE

#### 2 Chronicles 20:23-24 (NLT)

<sup>23</sup> The armies of Moab and Ammon turned against their allies from Mount Seir and killed every one of them. After they had destroyed the army of Seir, they began attacking each other. <sup>24</sup> So when the army of Judah arrived at the lookout point in the wilderness, all they saw were dead bodies lying on the ground as far as they could see. Not a single one of the enemy had escaped.

#### IT'S TIME TO SEE OUR ENEMY DEFEATED

## 2 Chronicles 20:25-30 (NLT)

<sup>25</sup> King Jehoshaphat and his men went out to gather the plunder. They found vast amounts of equipment, clothing, and other valuables—more than they could carry. There was so much plunder that it took them three days just to collect it all! <sup>26</sup> On the fourth day they gathered in the Valley of Blessing, which got its name that day because the people praised and thanked the Lord there. It is still called the Valley of Blessing today. <sup>27</sup> Then all the men returned to Jerusalem, with Jehoshaphat leading them, overjoyed that the Lord had given them victory over their enemies. <sup>28</sup> They marched into Jerusalem to the music of harps, lyres, and trumpets, and they proceeded to the Temple of the Lord. <sup>29</sup> When all the surrounding kingdoms heard that the Lord himself had fought against the enemies of Israel, the fear of God came over them. 30 So Jehoshaphat's kingdom was at peace, for his God had given him rest on every side.

OUR GOD CAN STILL TAKE WHAT LOOKED LIKE CERTAIN DESTRUCTION AND TURN INTO SUPERNATURAL BLESSING