

“WHEN THE BAD NEWS COMES...” (II Chronicles 20:1-24)

- I. The **Background** on King Jehoshaphat
- II. The **Setting** for the Bad News (2 Chron 17-19)
 1. Jehoshaphat made an _____ with Ahab, king of Israel in war (Chapter 18)
 2. After a rebuke by Jehu, Jehoshaphat brought Judah _____ to the Lord (Chapter 19)
- III. The **Announcement** of the Bad News (2 Chron 20:1-2)
 1. An _____ army consisting of Ammonites, Moabites, and Edomites gathers to _____ Judah
- IV. Jehoshaphat’s **Response** to the Bad News
 1. Jehoshaphat initially responds in _____
 2. Jehoshaphat sets himself to _____ the Lord
 - * What can we note about Joshaphat’s Prayer?
 - a. Jehoshahat extolled the _____ of the Lord
 - b. He recalls who God _____ by way of his _____
 - c. Principle to remember: Praying effectively requires you to know _____ your God _____ and appeal to Him in accord with His _____
 - d. Jehoshaphat recalled the _____ of God
 - e. Principle to remember: Praying effectively includes acknowledging _____ God has _____ functioned in the past in accord with His declared will.
 - f. Jehoshaphat recalled the _____ of God
 - g. What has God promised you as His child?
 - h. Principle to remember: Praying effectively includes acknowledging your _____ while focusing on _____
- V. The Response of **God** to Jehoshaphat’s Prayer
 1. God’s answer first addressed their _____: Do not be afraid or dismayed

2. God's answer secondly addressed the _____: It is not your battle but Mine
3. God's answer thirdly addressed the _____: Go out against them, for I am with you.
4. The threefold plan for victory:
 1. _____ yourself
 2. _____ still
 3. _____ the Lord's deliverance

VI. Jehoshaphat's Response to God's **Answer**

1. Before the deliverance was _____, both Jehoshaphat and the nation _____ the Lord
2. Principle to remember: You are to worship the Lord by _____, believing that His answer is _____
3. Judah's confidence in that what "God had promised He was able to perform" resulted in them going into "battle" _____ to the Lord
4. Principle to remember: Adopt the _____ of praise even though the _____ of your trial is not yet realized

VII. Summary of Principles:

* When Bad News Comes....

1. The first thing you are to do is to fall on your face before God. Before you call a friend, fall to your knees and **worship**.
2. Then you are to allow the rest of the **body of Christ** to **pray** with you and for you. When one part of the Body suffers, we all do, and we are to pray with and for each other. Ignoring your fellow saints in Christ this privilege robs the rest of the church out of seeing God work and robs God of glory that is His.
3. Thoughtfully rehearse in your prayers, God's amazing and unchanging **character**, His past **faithfulness** and whatever appropriate principles or promises are in His **Word**
4. If need be, **continue to pray** until you have some kind of insight from God into what it is He is trying to do in your life or with your life, even in regard to you being a vessel of mercy in someone else's life.
5. **Wait** on the Lord and move out by **faith**, praising Him even when you do not know what the **outcome** will be

* What does this mean to you?