

Psalm 27 (Part 8) - Pray Like Jehoshaphat November 11, 2023

The following text is a message from Corner Fringe Ministries that was presented by Daniel Joseph. The original presentation can be viewed at <https://www.cornerfringe.com/media/6897cgp/psalm-27-part-8>

***Portions of this document have been edited from the video message to better present a comprehensive, written document. Special attention was given to preserve the original context, but this document is not verbatim. Scripture verses are in the red text with other quotes in blue. Therefore, it is recommended that this document is printed in color. The Hebrew words are generally accompanied by the transliterate, English word. In most cases, the Hebrew is to be read from right to left.**

Last week, we closed out our message by jumping into 2 Chronicles 20. 2 Chronicles 20 is Psalm 27's prophetic parallel. The expression we see David go through in Psalm 27 is echoed in 2 Chronicles 20. The only difference is it's done in a prophetic story format. Embedded within this amazing story are all these amazing tools, what I would call, weapons of our warfare. These weapons will assist you with combating fear, with the discouragement that gets hurled upon you, and with the totality of the power of darkness that battles against humanity.

I am so excited about the things we will cover today because you will learn how to war. Your hands will be trained for battle and your fingers for war. As we dig into this, this will be powerful. This is one of those messages that if you listen carefully, you may say, "This is insane," but if you would just go home and apply this information, your life will change. I mean that.

Last week, we left off at verses 3 and 4. To get us back into the context, let's jump back into this: 2 Chronicles 20:3a—^{3a} **And Jehoshaphat feared,**

Jehoshaphat feared because the nations had united together. They had made a coalition to kill him and wipe the Jewish people off the map. Interestingly enough, we are in that context today, are we not?

2 Chronicles 20:3-4—³ **And Jehoshaphat feared, and set himself to seek the LORD, and proclaimed a fast throughout all Judah.** ⁴ **So Judah gathered together to ask help from the LORD; and from all the cities of Judah they came to seek the LORD.** (Emphasis added).

After reading this, look at Psalm 27:4—David said—⁴ **One thing I have desired—asked—of the LORD, that will I seek.** David was asking and seeking. This is the very principle Jesus, *Yeshua*, taught us to do. You are to ask; you are to seek; you are to knock. Look at these men. What were they doing? They were asking and seeking.

2 Chronicles 20:5—⁵ **Then Jehoshaphat stood in the assembly of Judah and Jerusalem, in the house of the LORD, before the new court,** (Emphasis added).

They were in the temple. That's the context of this situation that we will get into today. They assembled in the temple. Jehoshaphat is in their midst. Have they assembled so Jehoshaphat can simply address them? It's way beyond that. Get this: Jehoshaphat is going to lead them in prayer. Imagine

Jehoshaphat leading his kingdom in prayer in the House of Prayer. That's an amazing thought. We will spend most of today looking at Jehoshaphat's prayer.

Jehoshaphat's prayer is one of the most powerful prayers I've ever read in my life. I have drawn an abundance of clarity, strength, and faith simply from this prayer. I cannot possibly put a value on it. It is invaluable to me. It has strengthened me in a time of need. It has equipped me by giving me the power to combat the principalities, powers, and spiritual hosts of wickedness.

As we go through this prayer, pick up these weapons of war. See how Jehoshaphat deployed them. Every step of the way as we go through this, it is amazing, and I'm not overselling this at all. I'm not hyping this up. This is about life and death. It is the difference between you gaining victory and you losing. I can't help but think about what the psalmist said in Psalm 119:161—¹⁶¹ **But my heart stands in awe of Your word.** That is the best way I can explain this prayer; my heart stands in awe of it. Let's jump in and open in this prayer:

2 Chronicles 20:6a—^{6a} **and—Jehoshaphat—said: “O LORD God of our fathers** (*Yahweh 'ēlōhê 'ăḇōtênū*).

This is an important phrase because in Exodus 3, when the Lord commissioned Moses to tell the people of Israel that He was going to set them free, Moses said—¹³ **“When . . . I say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they say to me, 'What is His name?' what shall I say to them?"** ¹⁴ **And God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM,"** (*'eh-yeh 'ă-šer 'eh-yeh*). **And He said, "Thus you shall say to the children of Israel, 'I AM ('eh-yeh) has sent me to you.'** " ¹⁵ **Moreover God said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the children of Israel—this is the very statement Jehoshaphat opened his prayer with—'The LORD God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you. This is My name forever, and this is My memorial to all generations.** (Exodus 3:13-15, Emphasis added).

Think about that because that's what this clause **“O LORD God of our fathers”** is. It is disseminating important information about God. In Exodus 3, this is called His memorial name. He is the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, *Yahweh 'ēlōhê*. And by Jehoshaphat identifying that, he was identifying that God is a God of promise, a God of Covenant, and a God of faithfulness. This was an important way to open up this prayer.

Then he added as 2 Chronicles 20:6a continued—^{6a} **are You not God in heaven.** (Emphasis added).

Look at this structure. Look at how Jehoshaphat opened up with *Yahweh 'ēlōhê*, and then asked, “Are you not in heaven?” Have we heard this before? Isn't this the way *Yeshua* taught us to pray? When His disciples said to Him—¹ **“Lord, teach us to pray . . .** ² **So He said to them, “When you pray, say, Our Father which art in heaven** (Luke 11:1-2). Jehoshaphat prayed in the very same pattern of how *Yeshua* taught us to pray. Jehoshaphat understood this. It's amazing how he opened up this prayer.

Then he said in 2 Chronicles 20:6b—^{6b} **and do You not rule over all the kingdoms of the nations, and in Your hand is there not power and might, so that no one is able to withstand You?**

Look at what he just said. It's so important. This is critical. If you want to understand the art of prayer, understand what Jehoshaphat just did. The first thing after his introduction was he reminded God of who He is. Jehoshaphat confessed God's greatness, His infinite power, and His might. It's the first thing he did. He confessed who God is in a traditional Jewish fashion with questions.

Then he said this in 2 Chronicles 20:7—⁷ **"Are You not our God, who drove out the inhabitants of this land before Your people Israel, and gave it to the descendants of Abraham Your friend forever?"**

Jehoshaphat moved from declaring who God is, His infinite power, and that He is the God of gods and the Lord of lords to reminding God of what He had done. This is one of the most important principles in the art of prayer you will ever implement in your prayer life. How much time do you spend reminding God of what He has done, of the greatness that He has accomplished, and of His deliverance, mercy, and grace? Jehoshaphat conveyed the idea, "You took us out from Egypt by Your grace, power, and mercy and brought us into the Land of Promise.

Everything we read in the Word of God tells us what He has done. He brought the Israelites through the Red Sea and into the Promised Land. He built the temple. And when they sinned, and the temple was destroyed, and they went into captivity, what did God do? He brought them home. He showed mercy to them. We keep seeing this replay over and over again.

In the New Testament, we see the greatness and love of Messiah *Yeshua* and all the things He did. One thing I do in my prayer closet is remind *Yeshua* of all He did in His ministry and post-ministry. He had compassion on many and healed them of sickness and disease. He didn't turn anyone away. He loosed those who were bound by Satan. He told a woman afflicted by the devil with an infirmity for 18 years—¹² **Woman, you are loosed from your infirmity** (Luke 13:12).

These things come into my prayer life. I remind the Lord of what he has done day after day in the question format: "Are you not the Messiah who came and set the captives free, who opened prison doors, who showed compassion and love to everyone that came to you, and who when the lepers asked to be cleansed, you cleansed them?" Over and over again, I do this. I have learned how to do this. This is a Jehoshaphat influence. We need to remember what He has done if we want to have power in prayer.

Let me show you what happens when you forget. In the Scriptures, you read that when Israel didn't remember what God had done, they went awry and fell into plagues and into curses. Check this out: Psalm 106:7—⁷ **Our fathers in Egypt did not understand Your wonders; they did not remember the multitude of Your mercies, but rebelled by the sea--the Red Sea.** (Emphasis added).

Once Israel was taken out of Egypt and hadn't crossed the Red Sea yet, they started complaining to Moses—¹¹ **Because there were no graves in Egypt, have you taken us away to die in the wilderness?** (Exodus 14:11). They were complaining because the Egyptians were pressing in on them, and the sea was to their back. They weren't remembering how God separated them from the Egyptians as He rained hell down upon Egypt. They forgot how the Egyptians experienced all those plagues, and Israel was untouched because of God's mercy, grace, and faithfulness every step of the way. Then when the death angel went through Egypt, not one Israelite firstborn lost their life. It was supernatural deliverance. Then God gave them favor to plunder the Egyptians, and they walked out of Egypt with their riches. When they arrived at the Red Sea, they had a short-term memory loss. They forgot all of it.

We laugh, but how many times do we fall into that situation. When we don't call into mind what the Lord has done, we get into trouble. I'm not only talking about what God has done in the Scriptures, which is powerful and is a must; I'm talking about what He has done in your life. Do you want power in prayer? I want to access the throne room in a way that the Lord hears, *šā·mê·a'.* The way to do that is to start stringing out all the blessings and faithfulness God has shown you. This is how we change our

prayer closet from being just a few moments of us talking to being an experience with God. I want an experience with God. I want God to hear me and respond. I want there to be power.

Psalm 78:41-42—⁴¹ Yes, again and again they tempted God, and limited the Holy One of Israel. ⁴² **They did not remember His power: The day when He redeemed them from the enemy,** (Emphasis added).

When you forget the things that God has done in your life, the enemy will lead you off a cliff. If this is not part of what you pray day after day, you will be led astray. That's a scary place to be, but this was not Jehoshaphat's problem.

Jehoshaphat continued to pray: 2 Chronicles 20:8-9—⁸ **"And they dwell in it**—He capitalized on the fact that God took them out of Egypt, delivered them, purged out the enemy, and they dwell in it. This is a statement of promise. "God, you kept your promise"—**and have built You a sanctuary in it for Your name, saying,** ⁹ **'If disaster comes upon us—listen to these different contexts--sword, judgment, pestilence, or famine--we will stand before this temple and in Your presence (for Your name is in this temple), and cry out to You in our affliction, and You will hear and save.'** (Emphasis added).

This is marvelous! Do you know what Jehoshaphat just did? He prayed the Word of God. These were not Jehoshaphat's independent thoughts. He was drawing from the Word, and guess what? He was drawing from his great-great-grandfather Solomon who, ironically, had been in the very place that Jehoshaphat was in and had done the exact same thing as Jehoshaphat. Going back to the days when Solomon dedicated the temple, he stood in the midst of the assembly, and he prayed.

Let me show you a little bit of what his prayer looked like, and then you'll understand what's going on here. Solomon said: 2 Chronicles 6:28—²⁸ **"When there is famine—also mentioned by Jehoshaphat— in the land, pestilence—also mentioned by Jehoshaphat—or blight or mildew, locusts or grasshoppers— can be identified as judgment; when their enemies besiege them in the land of their cities; whatever plague or whatever sickness there is....**

It's interesting. Their enemies besiege them in the land of their cities. This is happening right now. Didn't Hamas come in and do this? I make this point because this prayer is relevant.

Then we move on: 2 Chronicles 6:29-30—²⁹ **"whatever prayer, whatever supplication is made by anyone, or by all Your people Israel, when each one knows his own burden and his own grief, and spreads out his hands to this temple: ³⁰ "then hear from heaven Your dwelling place**—Here is that prayer again that Jehoshaphat prayed, Yeshua taught, and Solomon recognized: Our Father who art in heaven—**and forgive, and give to everyone according to all his ways, whose heart You know (for You alone know the hearts of the sons of men),** (Emphasis added).

Jehoshaphat's drew his prayer from history and from the Word. When Solomon prayed that prayer, God said—¹² **I have heard,** (he-shaw-mah in Hebrew) **your prayer** (2 Chronicles 7:12). God accepted Solomon's prayer, and it was recorded, and Jehoshaphat drew from it. So, Jehoshaphat literally prayed the Word.

This is one of the most valuable principles you will have in gaining power in prayer: pray the Word. Jehoshaphat prayed the Word. There is so much power. The Word is infallible. We are told—¹⁴ **if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us** (1 John 5:14). If we know He hears us, then we know we have the petitions that we have asked of Him. Guess what I've discovered? The Word is His will.

Interestingly enough, *Yeshua* also taught us to pray—² **Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven** (Luke 11:2). When you start praying the Word, watch what God does in your life. Watch what He does to your heart and mind. You will tap a power you have never experienced. The Holy Spirit is going to move. Pray the Word.

2 Chronicles 20:10-11— Jehoshaphat continued—¹⁰ **"And now, here are the people of Ammon, Moab, and Mount Seir--whom You would not let Israel invade when they came out of the land of Egypt, but they turned from them and did not destroy them—this is the coalition of nations—¹¹ "here they are, rewarding us by coming to throw us out of Your possession **which You have given us to inherit.**"** (Emphasis added).

My, oh my, doesn't that not sound familiar? The enemies of the Lord are going to reward Israel for not being the aggressors by throwing them out of the possession.

That's what we call Hamas, Hezbollah, Iran, Turkey, Russia, and China. It's happening right now, and it's all over the possession. They hate the Jewish people in the land. They want them out. Satan wants to destroy the beautiful covenant and promise of God. That's what this is about.

This was what Jehoshaphat was going through. I love how he ended this: **"which You have given us to inherit."** Notice, Jehoshaphat didn't say by our own strength and might we have accomplished this and brought ourselves into the land. No, he gave all the glory to God and said that this only happened because of who God is. It was an absolutely beautiful prayer.

2 Chronicles 20:12a—^{12a} **O our God, will You not judge them? For we have no power against this great multitude that is coming against us;** (Emphasis added).

There is no doubt, whatsoever, about this situation being precarious. Victory for Jehoshaphat was impossible in the physical realm. He recognized he was outmanned, outmatched, and outgunned. There was no way to win this war in the physical realm. It was hopeless. Talk about a pit of despair! Yet, we see Jehoshaphat went to the only one that could handle this situation because Jehoshaphat was over his head. Judah was over its head. They had no hope physically speaking.

Moving on: 2 Chronicles 20:12b—^{12b} **nor do we know what to do....**

So, they had no power to defeat their enemies, and they didn't know what to do. Have you ever been in over your head in a situation that's paralyzed you with fear because you don't know what to do? You feel completely helpless. You have that pit of despair in you. That is the worst feeling. No matter what direction you go to try to fix the situation, it's a dead end. It may be financial, health, or family issues. It could be all sorts of things. Some people get into situations where they only get reports of death, and in the physical realm there is no hope.

I look at Jehoshaphat's situation, and this is the kind of despair he was confronted with. Hopefully, some of you will be encouraged in your situation. If you have had that feeling of being crushed by the weight of the world, prayer is the ultimate weapon. This is where prayer comes into your life.

Jehoshaphat closed out his prayer with the three most beautiful words: *kî 'āleḳā 'ê·nê·nū*. This is the closing. And what does that mean?

2 Chronicles 20:12b continued—^{12b} **but our eyes are upon You,**” (*kî ‘āleḵā ‘ê-nê-nū*). (Emphasis added).

Despite all the hell, the impossible war they couldn’t win, and not knowing what to do, Jehoshaphat said **“our eyes are upon You.”** That reminds me of Isaiah 45:22—²² **Look to Me**—turn your eyes to me—**and be saved.**

I love the song, “Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus.”—**Turn your eyes upon Jesus. Look full in His wonderful face. And the things of the earth**—the attacks and the powers of darkness that have been wreaking havoc on your life—**will grow strangely dim, in the light of His glory and grace.** We are called to turn our eyes to Him.

Considering how Jehoshaphat closed out his prayer, let’s go back a few chapters. When I read through the book of 2 Chronicles chronologically, I realized that Jehoshaphat’s behavior and his response to this insanity of a battle that he can’t win was the exact opposite of his father’s. In 2 Chronicles 16, you read that Asa was confronted with a similar situation, but Asa didn’t respond the way Jehoshaphat did.

Asa was being attacked by the northern kingdom, and as he looked at the situation, he knew he couldn’t win. He was looking at this in the flesh. He was not walking by faith; he was walking by sight. Since he felt he couldn’t win this battle, he went to Ben-Hadad, the king of Syria, and depended on him to help him through this. Asa even went so far as to plunder the riches of the temple to pay Ben-Hadad to come and battle.

So, check this out: 2 Chronicles 16:7—⁷ **And at that time Hanani the seer came to Asa king of Judah, and said to him: "Because you have relied on the king of Syria, and have not relied on the LORD your God, therefore the army of the king of Syria has escaped from your hand.** (Emphasis added).

2 Chronicles 16:9—The Prophet Hanani told Asa—⁹ **“In this you have done foolishly; therefore from now on you shall have wars.”** Asa was livid with this prophet and imprisoned him.

2 Chronicles 16:12-13—¹² **Asa became diseased in his feet, and his malady was severe; yet in his disease he did not seek the LORD, but the physicians.** ¹³ **So Asa rested with his fathers.** He died in his affliction. He died in this plague.

Jeremiah 17:5,7-8 says—⁵ **Thus says the LORD: "Cursed is the man who trusts in man and makes flesh his strength, whose heart departs from the LORD. . . ."** ⁷ **"Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD, and whose hope is the LORD.** ⁸ **For he shall be like a tree planted by the waters, which spreads out its roots by the river.**

If you trust in the Lord, you will be established. Don't put your trust in man. Don't make flesh your strength. Trust in the Lord, and you will tap into true power. I don't care how many hours you spend in prayer, if your heart is where Asa's heart was, you will have no power because you have no connection to the Lord. You are not authentically right in heart. You are not fully trusting in the Lord. You are not going to him for every problem. You are not going to him to be the solution to everything.

He is the solution. Everything should be filtered through the Lord. If you have marriage problems, He's the answer. If you have financial problems, He's the answer. If you have health problems, who's the answer? Who are you going to trust? Are you an Asa or a Jehoshaphat?

Let's go back to Jehoshaphat's situation in 2 Chronicles 20:13-14a—¹³ Now all Judah, with their little ones, their wives, and their children, stood before the LORD. ^{14a} Then the Spirit of the LORD came upon **Jahaziel** (Emphasis added).

I highlighted Jahaziel because you need to see the tidbit of irony here. Jehoshaphat closed his prayer with, “our eyes—of our kingdom—are upon you.” The next thing we read is that the Lord sent His Prophet Jahaziel. What does his name mean? “God sees.” How amazing is that! They said, “Lord, our eyes are upon you,” and because of that, God said “My eyes are on you.” That is so powerful.

2 Chronicles 20:14b-15—^{14b} the son of Zechariah, the son of Benaiah, the son of Jeiel, the son of Mattaniah, a Levite of the sons of Asaph, in the midst of the assembly. ¹⁵ And he said, "Listen, all you of Judah and you inhabitants of Jerusalem, and you, King Jehoshaphat! Thus says the LORD to you: 'Do not be afraid nor dismayed because of this great multitude, **for the battle is not yours, but God's.**' (Emphasis added).

You can have total confidence that the Lord does not want you to tremble in the sight of evil and darkness and all its great power which you cannot overcome in and of yourself. You do not have the power to stand against principalities, powers, and spiritual hosts of wickedness. But when your eyes are upon *Yeshua*, do not be afraid because you've tapped into the power. The battle is not yours; it becomes the Lord's.

Do you know what was being described here? This turned into a holy war. When God stepped in and basically said, “The battle is mine. Step back. This is my fight,” that was the biblically speaking definition of holy war. God Himself was going to intervene and give His people supernatural deliverance.

Interestingly enough, as we look at the phrase “the battle is not yours, but God's,” King David employed the same language when he stood toe-to-toe with Goliath. He said to Goliath—⁴⁵ You come to me with a sword, with a spear, and with a javelin. But I come to you in the name of the LORD of hosts, (*Yahweh šəḇā'ōwt*) the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. ⁴⁶ This day the LORD will deliver you into my hand . . . ⁴⁷ for the battle is the LORD's (1 Samuel 17:45-47).

Think about what that means. It's over. Victory is imminent! It's been sealed. God has gotten involved, and He can't lose.

2 Chronicles 20:16-17a—¹⁶ 'Tomorrow go down against them. They will surely come up by the Ascent of Ziz, and you will find them at the end of the brook before the Wilderness of Jeruel. ^{17a} 'You will not need to fight in this battle. Position yourselves, **stand still and see the salvation of the LORD**, who is with you, O Judah and Jerusalem!' (Emphasis added).

These were the very words spoken by Moses to all Israel as they stood in front of the Red Sea. As the Egyptians, the enemies of the Lord, were pressing in, he told them, ¹³ “Do not be afraid. Stand still and see the salvation of the LORD”—the *Yeshua* of our God (Exodus 14:13).

The words spoken by the Prophet Jahaziel would have resonated with the entire assembly who grew up studying the words Moses spoke to Israel. They were hearing those words again, and they knew what happened after Moses, *Moshe*, said those words: they were delivered, and their enemies fell. We don't

need to go any further since we already know how this ended because of the statement **“stand still and see the salvation of God.”** That is awesome.

I look at the situation going on in 2 Chronicles 20, and it is so tangible. It's like we are reading the front page of a newspaper. Prophetically speaking, this is what will happen at the end of the age because the entire world will surround Israel. She won't be able to defeat her enemies militarily. It will come to the point they will not be able to defend themselves. They will not be able to go up against China, Russia, Turkey, the rest of the world, and eventually Babylon America. The entire world will surround her, and it will be the exact same situation Jehoshaphat was in.

But then guess what will happen? This nation will get together and do as Jehoshaphat did. They will pray and turn their eyes upon *Yeshua*. They will stand still and see the *Yeshua* of God. He will come on the clouds of heaven. The battle is His, and He will destroy the wicked, the entire world. The nations will fall in that moment. (See Zechariah 14 and Daniel 7).

2 Chronicles 20:17b—Jahaziel added —^{17b} **Do not fear or be dismayed; tomorrow go out against them, for the LORD is with you.**"

Look at what this prophet of God said. The instruction he gave to Jehoshaphat and his people was exactly what the Torah commanded. Jahaziel borrowed this from the Torah. This is the battle cry. I love this. It is one of my favorite passages in Torah. Check this out: Deuteronomy 20:1—¹ **"When you go out to battle against your enemies, and see horses and chariots and people more numerous than you—you can't win this battle; you are outmanned and outgunned— do not be afraid of them; for the LORD your God is with you, who brought you up from the land of Egypt.** ² **"So it shall be, when you are on the verge of battle, that the priest shall approach and speak to the people. ³ "And he shall say to them, 'Hear, O Israel: Today you are on the verge of battle with your enemies. **Do not let your heart faint, do not be afraid, and do not tremble or be terrified because of them—**don't fall into the fear; ⁴ **'for the LORD your God is He who goes with you, to fight for you against your enemies, to save you.'** (Emphasis added).**

The priests, the judges, and the elders were to declare this battle cry and assemble the men and say, "We will not fear because our God is for us, so who can be against us." This is the calling of war: to assemble the righteous together and to not fear what is coming. This is exactly what happened in the story of Jehoshaphat as Jahaziel said—^{17b} **Do not fear or be dismayed; tomorrow go out against them, for the LORD is with you** (2 Chronicles 20:17b).

I look at this story, and everything we have seen unfold today is our strategy for war. It's not just simply a strategy for collective Israel, which it is, but it is a strategy for you independently. You need to fight your battles exactly how you have seen this whole thing laid out. Jahaziel told them the Word of the Lord. Position yourself in humility, faith, repentance, and prayer like Jehoshaphat did. Position yourself. Prepare for war.

Let's look at Exodus 17. Israel had come through the Red Sea to a place known as Rephidim. While they were there, Satan rose up through Amalek, and he went to war with Israel. So, check out what happened in Exodus 17:9—⁹ **And Moses said to Joshua, "Choose us some men and go out, fight with Amalek. Tomorrow I will stand on the top of the hill with the rod of God in my hand."** They were going to war, so Moses gave instructions to Joshua to fight them.

Exodus 17:10—¹⁰ So Joshua did as Moses said to him, and fought with Amalek. And Moses, Aaron, and Hur went up to the top of the hill. Moses, *Moshe*, did not go alone. Aaron and Hur were with him. Remember everything in Scripture is established on the testimony of two or three. You will see how important this is as we continue in Exodus 17:11—¹¹ And so it was, when Moses held up his hand, that Israel prevailed; and when he let down his hand, Amalek prevailed.

This is one of those passages that stops you dead in your tracks. I try to take the magnitude of this in! Are you telling me that when Moses's hands (we will see that it is in the plural) are raised, Israel gained victory, but if he let his arms down, Satan gained victory over Israel? Every time I read this, I try to soak it in because there is something so profound and so meaningful in this. This is about war. This is about victory versus defeat, and it's all centered around Moses's arms being raised.

I want to share with you what the Targumist saw and what they knew. They knew something specific was happening. In fact, every Targum including Targum Onkelos, Targum Pseudo-Johathan, and Targum Neofiti records it. This is a great revelation. I want to show you this very passage in the Targum. This is what we read: Targum Neofiti: Exodus 17:11a—**And it happened that when Moses, *Moshe*, raised his hands in prayer, those of the house of Israel would prevail and were victorious; and when he would withhold his hands from praying, those of the House of Amalek would prevail, and they would fall by the sword.** (Emphasis added).

If you could see into the spiritual realm when you give your heart to prayer, truly in faith, as Jehoshaphat did, you would see darkness flee. You would see angels and demons battling and gaining victory over darkness because your hands are lifted.

Just as a side note: I challenge you to go through Scripture, and you will find righteous men of God all over the place with their hands lifted in prayer. When Solomon started his prayer to dedicate the temple, he stood in the midst of the assembly. By the end of his prayer, he was on his knees with his hands lifted. I think this is the second largest prayer in Scripture.

Paul said—⁸ I desire therefore that the men pray everywhere, lifting up holy hands, without wrath or doubting (1 Timothy 2:8). Pray with your hands lifted up. This is the power of prayer. **For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places** (Ephesians 6:12).

If you want the power to push them back, running around snapping your fingers isn't going to do anything. You have to labor in prayer. You have to war in prayer, and it will push them back. This is so powerful. This is such a huge revelation. Did we really think that it was just a matter of Moses lifting his arms up? Did you not think Moses was travailing as an intercessor? He was a mediator. He was interceding on behalf of Israel.

Exodus 17:12—¹² But Moses' hands became heavy; so they took a stone and put it under him, and he sat on it—now he is sitting and praying. **And Aaron and Hur supported his hands, one on one side, and the other on the other side; and his hands were steady until the going down of the sun.** (Emphasis added).

Isn't that interesting because in Matthew 18:20—Jesus, *Yeshua*, said—²⁰ **For where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them.** It gets powerful when you unify with the body, and get two or three to pray to *Yeshua*, calling upon His righteous name, warring against principalities and powers, and pushing back darkness.

What's amazing is when you stop praying, the darkness is going to prey upon you. You are giving darkness the ability to come in. Leonard Ravenhill said— **No man is greater than his prayer life. The pastor who is not praying is playing; the people who are not praying are straying.** What we don't understand is in spiritual warfare, you lose the high ground in the war when you do not pray.

Why did Paul say—¹⁷ **Pray without ceasing** (1 Thessalonians 5:17)? Because he was setting you up for success, so you could be victorious against principalities and powers. Why did *Yeshua* say—⁴¹ **Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation** (Matthew 26:41)? If you are not praying, what do you become exposed to? You become deficient. You become open season for the devil to take you out. *Yeshua* said—¹ **Men always ought to pray and not lose heart** (Luke 18:1). Everywhere you look, prayer is the bedrock of your expression of relationship with *Yeshua*. Bedrock: that's where the power is; that's where your strength is. You need this.

Let me share with you this same passage in Targum Neofiti Exodus 17:12b—**And the hands of Moshe were raised in prayer, recalling the faith of the pious fathers Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, and recalling the faith of the pious mothers Sarah, Rebekah, Rachel and Leah until the setting of the sun.** (Emphasis added).

That sounds like Hebrews 11, the Hall of Faith, where the writer recalled the faith of all these great men. This goes back to the point I was making earlier. Jehoshaphat prayed the Word. It's an incredible thing that the scribes realized in that they recognized Moses prayed the Word. Moses had prayed those things that took place, that were recorded, all the way through the history of his people. That is what Moses prayed.

If you are in the mode where prayer is boring to you, you are a dead man. You may walk around and feel blessed. You may think, "I have my health and things are good." But if you are not connected to the Lord, you are a dead man, and you are open season for darkness.

Pray without ceasing (1 Thessalonians 5:17). I want my mind meditating and praying to the Lord all day long. I want to walk in power. When we are in the darkness we are in right now, you can't afford to pray without ceasing. Some of you will say, "Daniel, I've been praying for 2 years, 5 years, or whatever, and nothing has happened. There are people who have prayed for 40 years, and it took that long to get their prayer answered, but they never stopped. Here's the deal: don't stop praying.

Elijah was a man with a nature like ours (James 5:17). When Elijah prayed for rain, it didn't rain. This was the anointed Elijah. How is that even possible? Does that make sense to you? This man had an insane anointing where the dead were raised and miracles happened through him. He prayed for rain, and there was no rain. He prayed again, and there was still no rain. He had to pray seven times before there was rain. That's diligence. That's commitment. He believed.

When you stop praying for something, you want to check yourself because your faith is gone. How do you get your faith back? Read the Word. **Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God** (Romans 10:17). We need the Word.