

REACTING TO ADVERSITY

ADVERSITY – WHY ME?

People are born for trouble as readily as sparks fly up from a fire

Job 5:7

The righteous person faces many troubles, but the Lord comes to the rescue each time

Psalms 34:19

Then you will be arrested, persecuted, and killed. You will be hated all over the world because you are my followers

Matthew 24:9

ADVERSITY – WHY ME?

“Nowhere does the Bible teach that Christians are exempt from the tribulations and natural disasters that come upon the world. Scripture does teach that the Christian can face tribulation, crisis, calamity, and personal suffering with a supernatural power that is not available to the person outside of Christ.

Billy Graham

ADVERSITY – I'LL DEAL WITH IT MYSELF

I know, LORD, that our lives are not our own. We are not able to plan our own course.

Jeremiah 10:23

Trust in the LORD with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding.

Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take.

Proverbs 3:5-6

ADVERSITY – THIS PROBLEM IS TOO BIG FOR ME!

Jesus looked at them intently and said, “Humanly speaking, it is impossible. But not with God. Everything is possible with God.”

Mark 10:27

The temptations in your life are no different from what others experience. And God is faithful. He will not allow the temptation to be more than you can stand. When you are tempted, he will show you a way out so that you can endure.

1 Cor. 10:13

ADVERSITY – JEHOSHAPAT’S MODEL – 2 Chronicles 20

After this, the armies of the Moabites, Ammonites, and some of the Meunites[a] declared war on Jehoshaphat. 2 Messengers came and told Jehoshaphat, “A vast army from Edom[b] is marching against you from beyond the Dead Sea

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.

13 As all the men of Judah stood before the Lord with their little ones, wives, and children,

THE KINGDOMS OF ISRAEL AND JUDAH

1 KINGS 12



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2 CHRONICLES 20:5-9

5 Jehoshaphat stood before the community of Judah and Jerusalem in front of the new courtyard at the Temple of the Lord. 6 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! 7 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? 8 Your people settled here and built this Temple to honor your name. 9 They said, ‘Whenever we are faced with any calamity such as war,[d] 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.’

2 CHRONICLES 20:10-12

10 “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. 11 Now see how they reward us! For they have come to throw us out of your land, which you gave us as an inheritance. 12 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.*”

2 CHRONICLES 20:13-14

13 As all the men of Judah stood before the Lord with their little ones, wives, and children,

14 the Spirit of the Lord came upon one of the men standing there.
His name was Jahaziel

2 CHRONICLES 20:15-17

15 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. 16 Tomorrow, march out against them.

17 But you will not even need to fight. 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!”

2 CHRONICLES 20:18, 20-21

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.

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."

2 CHRONICLES 20:18, 20-21

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!”

JEHOSHAPHAT'S MODEL

- Pray fully approach God acknowledging His supremacy
- Confess your fears, inadequacy & dependence on Him
- Gather with His people
- Pray / Fast / Wait
- Once God moves, You move too!
- Lead with Worship