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THE BATTLE IS NOT YOURS! II CHRONICLES 20:15-18

OVERVIEW:

DO YOU OR DID YOU HAVE ANY SIBLINGS GROWING UP? DID YOU HAVE/HAD ONE PARTICULAR SIBLING WHO WOULD FIGHT AT THE DROP OF A HAT? OR PERHAPS YOU WERE THAT SIBLING THAT WAS CALLED ON TO HANDLE ALL THE FAMILY BATTLES? IF YOU WERE NOT THE ONE WHO WAS THE FIGHTER, YOU ALWAYS KNEW WHATEVER SITUATION YOU GOT IN, YOUR SIBLING WOULD HANDLE IT FOR YOU. ALL YOU HAD TO DO WAS STAND BACK AND WATCH THE FIGHT!

II CHRONICLES CONTINUES THE STORY BEGUN IN **1 CHRONICLES**. **CHAPTERS 1-9** COMPLETE THE CHRONICLER'S PRESENTATION OF THE REIGNS OF DAVID AND SOLOMON AS A UNITED MONARCHY IN WHICH THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE TEMPLE IS THE SOLE FOCUS. **CHAPTERS 10-28** RETELL THE STORY OF THE DIVIDED MONARCHY FOLLOWING THE REBELLION OF THE NORTHERN TRIBES. **CHAPTERS 29-36** RELATE THE STORY OF THE MONARCHY REUNITED BY HEZEKIAH FOLLOWING THE DESTRUCTION OF THE NORTHERN KINGDOM IN THE ASSYRIAN INVASION OF 722 B.C.E. **SECOND CHRONICLES** CLOSES WITH THE COLLAPSE OF JUDAH, THE DEPORTATION OF THE PEOPLE TO BABYLON, AND THE PROCLAMATION OF CYRUS THE PERSIAN ENCOURAGING THEM TO RETURN TO THEIR HOMELAND. JEWISH TRADITION IDENTIFIES EZRA AS THE AUTHOR OF 1 AND 2 CHRONICLES, EZRA, AND NEHEMIAH. MANY SCHOLARS DATE CHRONICLES TO THE FIRST HALF OF THE FOURTH CENTURY.



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IN THIS TEXT, WE HAVE A BIRDS EYE VIEW OF THE TRIAL AND TRIUMPH OF JEHOSHAPHAT. HE LACKED WISDOM WHEN IT CAME TO CHOOSING HIS FRIENDS. HE SOUGHT TO MAINTAIN AN ALLIANCE WITH THE NORTHERN KINGS OF ISRAEL. THERE WAS ONLY ONE PROBLEM: JEHOSHAPHAT WAS DEDICATED TO THE LORD AND AHAB WAS A DEVOUT FOLLOWER OF BAAL. HE BROUGHT TROUBLE TO HIMSELF AND THE KINGDOM BECAUSE OF THOSE ALLIANCES.

WHEN HE REALIZED THERE WAS A GREAT MULTITUDE COMING AGAINST HIM WITH THE CHILDREN OF MOAB, THE CHILDREN OF AMMON, AND WITH THE AMMONITES, HE WAS SCARED AND DECLARED A FAST AMONG THE PEOPLE. JEHOSHAPHAT RECOGNIZED THAT HE WAS IN TROUBLE. HE REACHED OUT TO THE ONE WHO COULD DELIVER HIM. AND THEN HE REJOICED IN ADVANCE OVER THE VICTORY THAT WAS ON ITS WAY!

HAVE YOU FOUND YOURSELF IN A BATTLE AT THIS VERY MOMENT? DO YOU WANT TO WIN THIS BATTLE? DO YOU WANT TO TRIUMPH OVER YOUR ENEMY? DO YOU WANT TO HAVE POWER TO OVERCOME YOUR ENEMY?

IF YOU ANSWERED YES TO ANY OF THESE QUESTIONS, I HAVE GOOD NEWS FOR YOU! THERE IS A FORMULA FOR YOUR VICTORY! THERE ARE THREE LEARNING POINTS I'D LIKE TO SHARE WITH YOU TO BECOMING A VICTOR AND NOT A VICTIM!



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—*Teaching point one:* HEAR GOD - (V.15) – THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD IS SPEAKING.

WHO'S IN YOUR EAR? WHO ARE YOU LISTENING TO? IS IT YOUR BUDDY, YOUR BFF, YOUR MOTHER, YOUR FATHER, YOUR HUSBAND, YOUR WIFE, OR YOUR PERSONAL PSYCHIC? BE VERY CAREFUL WHOSE VOICE YOU LISTEN TO. IF YOU ALLOW SATAN TO GET INTO YOUR HEAD, HE'LL START FILLING IT WITH A BUNCH OF LIES AND DECEPTION. THE ONLY WAY TO TRULY BE ABLE TO HEAR THE VOICE OF GOD, YOU MUST HAVE A RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM! IN ORDER TO HAVE A RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM, YOU MUST KNOW HIM. IN ORDER TO KNOW HIM, YOU MUST SPEND TIME WITH HIM AND COMMUNICATE WITH HIM.

THERE IS A BIG DIFFERENCE IN KNOWING WHO SOMEONE IS VERSUS KNOWING THAT PERSON INTIMATELY. (JOHN 10:4-5) SAYS, "AND WHEN HE PUTTETH FORTH HIS OWN SHEEP, HE GOETH BEFORE THEM, AND THE SHEEP FOLLOW HIM: FOR THEY KNOW HIS VOICE. AND A STRANGER WILL THEY NOT FOLLOW, BUT WILL FLEE FROM HIM: FOR THEY KNOW NOT THE VOICE OF STRANGERS."

I BELIEVE THAT IS THE WAY SOME OF YOU FANTASIZE ABOUT GOD. YOU READ ABOUT HIM IN THE BIBLE AT CHURCH AND AT WEEKLY PRAYER MEETING. YOU HEAR PEOPLE PRAYING TO HIM AT PRAYER MEETING. AND YOU HEAR SERMONS BEING PREACHED ABOUT HIM EVERY SUNDAY MORNING. BUT THE BIG QUESTION IS, "DO YOU KNOW GOD IN A VERY REAL WAY?"



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DO YOU COMMUNICATE WITH HIM ON A REGULAR BASIS WHEN YOU ARE AWAY FROM THE CHURCH? DO YOU SPEND TIME READING HIS WORD ON A REGULAR BASIS? DO YOU CONSISTENTLY PRAY TO HIM? DO YOU SPEND ANY TIME LETTING HIM SPEAK TO YOU OR INSTEAD ARE YOU DOING ALL THE TALKING – COMPLAINING, CRYING, AND BEGGING?

BE HONEST WITH YOURSELF, DO YOU REALLY HAVE A RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD? HAVE YOU COMMUNICATED ENOUGH WITH HIM THAT IF HE SPOKE TO YOU TODAY, YOU WOULD KNOW HIS VOICE? UNDERSTAND TODAY, **THE BATTLE IS NOT YOUR'S IT'S THE LORDS!**

What is one of the very first things you must do when you are in battle?

Would you say that you have a rock-solid relationship with God? Why or why not?

What is the key to a healthy relationship? _____



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—*Teaching point two: OBEY GOD*

A. DO NOT BE AFRAID NOR DISMAYED - (V.15 & V.17)

IN THE B PORTION OF V.15 & V.17 IT SAYS, “THUS SAITH THE LORD UNTO YOU, BE NOT AFRAID NOR DISMAYED BY REASON OF THIS GREAT MULTITUDE; FOR THE BATTLE IS NOT YOURS, BUT GOD’S.” “FEAR NOT, NOR BE DISMAYED; TO MORROW GO OUT AGAINST THEM: FOR THE LORD WILL BE WITH YOU.” IN OTHER WORDS JEHOSHAPHAT WAS TOLD TWO TIMES TO BE COURAGEOUS, TO BE CONFIDENT, TO BE COOL, CALM AND COLLECT BECAUSE GOD WOULD BE WITH HIM.

IF YOU ARE A BLOOD BOUGHT BELIEVER, YOU HAVE NO REASON TO BE AFRAID WHEN YOU ARE UNDER THE ENEMY’S ATTACK. I’M REMINDED OF THE WORDS TO THE SONG THAT SAYS, “BE NOT DISMAYED WHAT EVER BETIDES. GOD WILL TAKE CARE OF YOU.” IT’S RIDICULOUS TO: 1) KNOW GOD. 2) HAVE RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD, AND 3) KNOW THAT HE PROMISED NEVER TO LEAVE YOU AND THEN ALLOW YOUR TEST AND TRIALS TO FRIGHTEN YOU AND OVERWHELM YOU. WHERE IS YOUR FAITH IN GOD? WHERE IS YOUR TRUST IN GOD? WHY ARE YOU AFRAID?

(**EXODUS 14:13-14**) SAYS, “13 AND MOSES SAID UNTO THE PEOPLE, FEAR YE NOT, STAND STILL, AND SEE THE SALVATION OF THE LORD, WHICH HE WILL SHEW TO YOU TO DAY: FOR THE EGYPTIANS WHOM YE HAVE SEEN TO DAY, YE SHALL SEE THEM AGAIN NO MORE FOR EVER.14 THE LORD SHALL FIGHT FOR YOU, AND YE SHALL HOLD YOUR PEACE.” (**I SAMUEL 17:47**) SAYS, “AND ALL THIS ASSEMBLY SHALL KNOW THAT THE LORD SAVETH NOT WITH SWORD AND SPEAR: FOR THE BATTLE IS THE LORD'S, AND HE WILL GIVE YOU INTO OUR HANDS.”



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REMEMBER THE TIME YOU WERE IN TROUBLE AND YOU NEEDED GOD TO COME TO YOUR RESCUE? DID YOU CALL HIM? DID HE ANSWER YOU? WHEN YOU OBEYED AND GOT OUT OF THE WAY AND LET HIM DO WHAT ONLY HE CAN DO, DIDN'T HE BRING YOU VICTORY? THEN WHY DO YOU DOUBT THAT HE CAN DO IT AGAIN? GOD NEVER FAILS; HEAVEN AND EARTH WILL PASS AWAY, BUT GOD WILL NEVER FAIL! I HEARD THE LATE DR. CARL ANDERSON SAY, "IF GOD CAN'T DO, IT JUST CAN'T BE DONE!"

B. "GO YE DOWN AGAINST THEM." - (V.16)

"GO YE OUT AGAINST THEM." - (V.17)

HERE GOD IS SPEAKING TO JEHOSHAPHAT AND GIVING HIM SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS ON EXACTLY WHAT TO DO AND HOW TO FIGHT THE ENEMY. HE TOLD JEHOSHAPHAT WHERE TO FIND THEM, WHERE THE MULTITUDE WOULD COME FROM, AND IN WHAT DIRECTION THEY WOULD BE HEADING WHEN THEY LEFT. CAN YOU TRUST GOD TO LEAD YOU WHEN ALL YOU SEE ARE MOUNTAINS BEFORE YOU, A VALLEY BENEATH YOU, AND WALLS ALL AROUND YOU AND HE'S TELLING YOU TO MOVE OUT AND ATTACK? CAN YOU TRUST HIM WHEN HE TELLS YOU TO SOW A SACRIFICIAL SEED OFFERING WHEN YOUR CAR NOTE AND MORTGAGE IS DUE? CAN YOU TRUST HIM WHEN HE TELLS YOU TO PRESS YOUR WAY TO SERVICE WHEN YOU KNOW YOU'VE GOT TO GO THROUGH A ROUGH NEIGHBORHOOD TO GET THERE?

WOULDN'T IT BE WONDERFUL TO KNOW WHERE YOUR ENEMY IS AND WHAT HIS NEXT MOVE MIGHT BE IN ORDER FOR YOU TO BE READY FOR HIS NEXT ATTACK? YOU CAN; IF YOU ASK THE HOLY SPIRIT FOR DISCERNMENT.



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(This one's for free in case you happen to be a young adult)

IT'S IMPERATIVE THAT YOU KNOW WHAT GOD'S VOICE SOUNDS LIKE; NOT THE VOICE OF YOUR PEERS LEADING YOU TO DO WRONG; NOT THE VOICES IN THE MUSIC FILLING YOUR HEAD WITH SEX, VIOLENCE AND VULGARITY; NOT THE VOICES ON THE TELEVISION OR YOU TUBE ENTICING TO TRY IT THIS ONE TIME BECAUSE IT WON'T HURT YOU. GOD'S VOICE WILL NEVER ENCOURAGE YOU TO PARTAKE IN THE "ME, MYSELF, AND I SYNDROME." HIS VOICE WILL NEVER TELL YOU TO STEP ON ANOTHER PERSON WHEN THEY'RE DOWN IN ORDER TO MAKE YOURSELF LOOK BIGGER OR BETTER. HIS VOICE WILL NEVER TELL YOU TO LOOK DOWN ON ANOTHER PERSON UNLESS YOU'RE LIFTING THEM UP.

[BUT FOR THE GRACE OF GOD . . .!]

C. "SET YOURSELVES" - (V.17)

THE WORD "SET" IS DEFINED AS: TO CAUSE TO SIT: PLACE IN OR ON A SEAT. A TRUE WARRIOR IS GOING TO STOP WHEN POSSIBLE TO REGROUP. HE MAY HAVE TO GET WATER TO DRINK. HE MAY NEED TO CALL INTO THE COMMANDING OFFICER TO GET FURTHER INSTRUCTION. HE MAY NEED TO TEND TO A WOUND. HE MAY NEED TO PAUSE AND STRATEGIZE WHAT HIS ENEMY'S NEXT MOVE MIGHT BE. HE MAY NEED MORE AMMUNITION. OR HE SIMPLY MAY NEED TO REST. A TIRED SOLDIER IS A DANGEROUS SOLDIER WHO CAN CAUSE HARM TO OTHERS AS WELL AS HIMSELF. YOU'VE GOT TO BE ALERT SO YOU CAN HEAR YOUR ORDERS AND OBEY THEM!

IF YOU'RE IN A BATTLE RIGHT NOW, WHETHER IT BE PHYSICAL, MENTAL, FINANCIAL, RELATIONAL OR SPIRITUAL, LET ME ENCOURAGE YOU TO STOP AND GET FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE CHIEF COMMANDER IN CHARGE.



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TAKE TIME TO REST UNDER THE SHADOW OF THE ALMIGHTY. (**PSALM 91:1**), “HE THAT DWELLETH IN THE SECRET PLACE OF THE MOST HIGH SHALL ABIDE UNDER THE SHADOW OF THE ALMIGHTY.” GO INTO YOUR SECRET CLOSET AND GET MORE AMMUNITION (**PRAYER**). GET SOME FOOD (**WORD OF GOD**). TAKE YOUR REST SO YOU CAN RENEW YOUR STRENGTH. DON’T LET THE ENEMY KNOW WHAT YOUR NEXT MOVE IS; BUT ALWAYS BE MINDFUL OF HIS TACTICS. SCRIPTURE URGES YOU TO WATCH AND PRAY! NOT TO FIGHT! WHY? **THE BATTLE IS NOT YOUR’S IT’S THE LORDS!**

THE TEXT GOES ON TO SAY, “STAND YE STILL”. HOW MANY TIMES DO WE MOVE AHEAD OF GOD OR EVEN BEHIND HIM? WHEN IT IS NOT YOUR SEASON TO MOVE, YOU BETTER LEARN HOW TO WAIT ON THE LORD. WE ARE SUCH IMPATIENT PEOPLE. WHEN CHALLENGES ARE OVERTAKING US AND WE FEEL LIKE GOD AIN’T HANDLING HIS, WE HAVE THE AUDACITY TO THINK WE KNOW MORE THAN GOD AND THAT WE CAN FIX IT BETTER THAN HE CAN. IF WE DIDN’T THINK MORE HIGHLY OF OURSELVES THAN WE OUGHT TO, WE WOULD FIRMLY STAND ON HIS PROMISE TO SEE US THROUGH. (**II CORINTHIANS 4:8-9**) REMINDS US, ‘WE ARE TROUBLED ON EVERY SIDE, YET NOT DISTRESSED; WE ARE PERPLEXED, BUT NOT IN DESPAIR; PERSECUTED, BUT NOT FORSAKEN; CAST DOWN, BUT NOT DESTROYED;

D. SEE THE SALVATION OF THE LORD WITH YOU- (V. 17)

WE LIVE IN A FAST-PACED, INSTANT, RIGHT-NOW SOCIETY. THERE ARE MICROWAVES TO NUKE FOOD THAT USED TO WARM UP IN THE OVEN. THERE IS INSTANT CEREAL, ONE-MINUTE RICE THAT ONCE HAD TO BE BOILED AND SIMMERED ON TOP OF THE STOVE. LETTERS CAN NOW BE SENT VIA THE INTERNET WHEN YOU USED TO HAND WRITE THEM AND THEN SEND THEM



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THROUGH SNAIL MAIL. NO MORE WAITING TO GET HOME TO SEE YOUR LOVED ONES. YOU CAN NOW SKYPE, VIDEOCHAT, OOVOO, TANGO AND QIK VIDEO JUST TO NAME A FEW FROM YOUR SMART PHONES. YOU DON'T HAVE EVEN HAVE TO GO TO A BANK TO MAKE A DEPOSIT ANYMORE. SIMPLY SCAN THE CHECK WITH YOUR CELL PHONE AND PHOOF IT'S BEEN DEPOSITED INSTANTLY INTO YOUR BANK ACCOUNT. TALK ABOUT LIGHTNING SPEED; YOU CAN CATCH BART TO THE EAST BAY AND GET THERE FASTER THEN TAKING A LOCAL BUS FROM THE CASTRO TO DOWNTOWN SAN FRANCISCO.

WHEN YOU TAKE TIME TO ACKNOWLEDGE GOD IN EVERYTHING YOU DO, HE WILL DIRECT YOUR PATH. THAT MEANS THINGS WILL WORK IN YOUR FAVOR BECAUSE YOU HAVE THE BLESSING OF GOD ON YOUR LIFE. WHEN YOU SLOW DOWN LONG ENOUGH TO SEE, YOU'LL BE MORE GRATEFUL FOR THE SMALL THINGS THAT GOD HAS DONE AND YOU TAKE FOR GRANTED. DID HE PUT BREATH IN YOUR BODY? DO YOU HAVE THE USE OF YOUR LIMBS? PEACE OF MIND? EYES TO SEE? LEGS TO WALK AND A MOUTH TO TALK? WHO WOKE YOU UP THIS MORNING/STARTED YOU ON YOUR WAY.

TAKE SOME TIME AND LOOK BACK OVER YOUR LIFE. IS THERE ANYBODY OTHER THAN ME WHO HAS A TESTIMONY ABOUT HOW GOD MADE A WAY FOR YOU WHEN YOU COULDN'T SEE A WAY OUT; HOW HE HEALED YOUR BODY WHEN THE DOCTORS HAD GIVEN UP ON YOU; HOW HE MENDED THAT BROKEN MARRIAGE WHEN YOU WERE ON YOUR WAY TO DIVORCE COURT; HOW HE BROUGHT YOUR WANDERING CHILD BACK HOME; HOW YOU GOT THAT CAR AND YOU DIDN'T EVEN HAVE A DOWN PAYMENT; HOW HE BLESSED YOU WITH A JOB AND YOU DIDN'T HAVE ANY EXPERIEICE; HOW YOU WERE ABLE TO RAISE YOUR CHILDREN AS A SINGLE-MOTHER WITH NO FINANCIAL HELP AT ALL FROM THAT NO GOOD BABY DADDY!



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—*Teaching point three: WORSHIP GOD - (V. 18)*

WE ARE DOWN TO THE THIRD AND FINAL TEACHING POINT. I ALREADY TOLD YOU IT WAS A SIMPLE THREE-POINT SYSTEM. **POINT ONE:** HEAR GOD. **POINT TWO:** OBEY GOD. **POINT THREE:** WORSHIP GOD!

JEHOSHAPHAT, ALL JUDAH AND THE INHABITANTS OF JERUSULAEM WORSHIPPED GOD BEFORE THE BATTLE WAS OVER! HE KNEW GOD HAD HIS BACK. HE TRUSTED GOD AND BELIEVED ENOUGH TO THANK HIM IN ADVANCE. HOW DID HE WORSHIP THE LORD? THE BIBLE SAYS, “HE BOWED HIS HEAD WITH HIS FACE TO THE GROUND:”

CAN YOU WORSHIP GOD WHEN YOU CAN’T EVEN SEE HOW THINGS ARE GOING TO TURN OUT FOR YOU? CAN YOU WORSHIP GOD WHEN ALL HELL IS BREAKING LOOSE IN OUR HOME? CAN YOU TRULY WORSHIP GOD WHEN YOU KNOW ON MONDAY THERE IS GOING TO BE A MASSIVE LAY-OFF AT YOUR JOB? CAN YOU WORSHIP GOD WHEN YOU JUST RECEIVED A BAD MEDICAL REPORT FROM THE DOCTOR? LET ME GIVE YOU A COUPLE OF TIPS ON HOW TO WORSHIP WHILE YOU’RE YET IN BATTLE!

THERE ARE THREE ELEMENTS YOU NEED TO BE AWARE OF IN YOUR WORSHIP. THEY ARE POSTURE, ATTITUDE AND REASON.



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A. POSTURE

LET ME ASK YOU THIS... WHAT IS YOUR POSTURE LIKE WHEN THE PRAISE & WORSHIP IS GOING FORTH? YOU SHOULD BE TUNING EVERYONE ELSE OUT AROUND YOU AND FOCUSING ON THE GREATNESS OF GOD! YOU SHOULD BE CLAPPING YOUR HANDS. YOU NEED TO BE OPENING UP YOUR MOUTH AND TELLING GOD HOW MUCH YOU LOVE HIM, HOW YOU WORSHIP HIM, AND HOW MUCH YOU ADORE HIM! THE BIBLE TELLS US, "LET EVERYTHING THAT HATH BREATH, PRAISE THE LORD. PRAISE YE THE LORD. THAT MEANS WITH YOUR LIPS AND YOUR VOICE RESOUNDING UNTO THE HEAVENS.

B. ATTITUDE

WHAT KIND OF ATTITUDE DO YOU HAVE DURING YOUR WORSHIP? THINK ABOUT HOW GREAT GOD IS AND BEGIN TO WORSHIP HIM! THINK ABOUT HOW AWESOME OUR GOD IS AND BEGIN TO WORSHIP HIM. THINK ABOUT THE FACT THAT THERE IS NOBODY LIKE HIM AND BEGIN TO WORSHIP HIM. UNDERSTAND THAT THERE IS NOBODY GREATER AND BEGIN TO WORSHIP HIM! THINK ABOUT HOW HIS GRACE IS SUFFICIENT AND BEGIN TO WORSHIP HIM! THINK ABOUT HIS EVER RENEWING MERCIES AND BEGIN TO WORSHIP HIM! AND REFLECT ON HIS UNMERITED FAVOR AND BEGIN TO WORSHIP HIM! ARE YOU READY TO WORSHIP GOD IN SPIRIT AND IN TRUTH!

HEAR ME...NO ONE SHOULD HAVE TO PULL AND PRY YOU TO WORSHIP GOD. YOU SHOULD ENTER INTO HIS GATE WITH THANKSIGIVING AND INTO HIS COURTS WITH PRAISE AND BE THANKFUL UNTO HIM AND BLESS HIS NAME FOR THE LORD IS GOOD! YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO BE ALIVE TODAY.



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YOU COULD BE LAID UP IN A HOSPITAL BED, LOCKED UP IN JAIL, LOCKED DOWN IN A MENTAL WARD, OR YOU COULD HAVE BEEN DEAD, SLEEPING IN YOUR GRAVE; BUT GOD SPARED YOUR LIFE! COME ON AND GIVE GOD SOME PRAISE!

C. REASON

GOD CREATED YOU TO WORSHIP HIM. HE IS EVERLASTING AND HIS MERCY ENDURETH FOREVER. HE IS WORTHY. HE'S SO DESERVING OF YOUR PRAISE. IF YOU LOVE HIM LIKE YOU SAY YOU DO, YOU WON'T MIND TELLING HIM WHAT HE MEANS TO YOU AND HOW MUCH YOU LOVE AND APPRECIATE HIM JUST FOR WHO HE IS IN ALL OF HIS GLORY AND SPLENDOR. YOUR REASON FOR WORSHIPPING GOD SHOULD BE BECAUSE HE IS: **JEHOVAH** JIREH YOUR PROVIDER; **JEHOVAH** NISSI – YOUR BANNER; **JEHOVAH** SHALOAM – YOUR PEACE; **JEHOVAH** TSIDKANU – YOUR RIGHTEOUSNESS; **JEHOVA** ROPHA – YOUR HEALER.

CONCLUSION: JUST LIKE JEHOSHAPHAT, YOU NEED TO KNOW THAT A PATIENT AND MERCIFUL GOD AWAITS YOUR RESPONSE AND LISTENS TO YOUR PRAYERS. IF YOU REALLY WANT TO WIN THE BATTLE: 1) HEAR GOD, 2) OBEY GOD, AND 3) WORSHIP GOD IN ADVANCE. YOU DON'T HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL THE BATTLE IS OVER YOU CAN SHOUT NOW. BECAUSE **THE BATTLE IS NOT YOUR'S, IT BELONGS TO THE LORD!**

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE:

II CHRONICLES 20:15-18
JOHN 10:4-5
EXODUS 14:13-14

I SAMUEL 17:47
PSALM 91:1
II CORINTHIANS 4:8-9