



PRAYER VIGIL WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25th, 6:30PM

Join us on our Facebook Page at 6:30pm for a Live Video. If you do not have Facebook, you can use this guide to pray with us on your own wherever you are and a recording of the service will be shared later.

• **SCRIPTURE**

We'll begin by prayerfully reflecting on a remarkable story from 2 Chronicles chapter 20. The Scriptures record many stories of the kings of Israel and Judah from the time of King Saul and King David to the period of Exile. Many of these kings after David were poor rulers, leading their kingdoms away from the Lord. But some sought after the Lord and led the people back to God. Jehoshaphat was one of the good ones. 2 Chronicles 20 gives a fascinating story of the intercession of God's people in times of great trouble. Let's prayerfully reflect on the Word of God together. As we read, see if any words or phrases stand out to you. Reflect on what God might be saying.

Lord, illuminate your Word to us. Speak to your people; we are listening:

¹ After this, the Moabites and Ammonites with some of the Meunites came to wage war against Jehoshaphat. ² Some people came and told Jehoshaphat, "A vast army is coming against you from Edom, from the other side of the Dead Sea. It is already in Hazezon Tamar" (that is, En Gedi).

³ Alarmed, Jehoshaphat resolved to inquire of the LORD, and he proclaimed a fast for all Judah. ⁴ The people of Judah came together to seek help from the LORD; indeed, they came from every town in Judah to seek him. ⁵ Then Jehoshaphat stood up in the assembly of Judah and Jerusalem at the temple of the LORD in the front of the new courtyard ⁶ and said:

"LORD, the God of our ancestors, are you not the God who is in heaven? You rule over all the kingdoms of the nations. Power and might are in your hand, and no one can withstand you. ⁷ Our God, did you not drive out the inhabitants of this land before your people Israel and give it forever to the descendants of Abraham your friend? ⁸ They have lived in it and have built in it a sanctuary for your Name, saying,

⁹ 'If calamity comes upon us, whether the sword of judgment, or plague or famine, we will stand in your presence before this temple that bears your Name and will cry out to you in our distress, and you will hear us and save us.'

¹⁰ "But now here are men from Ammon, Moab and Mount Seir, whose territory you would not allow Israel to invade when they came from Egypt; so they turned away from them and did not destroy them. ¹¹ See how they are repaying us by coming to drive us out of the possession you gave us as an inheritance. ¹² Our God, will you not judge them? For we have no power to face this vast army that is attacking us. We do not know what to do, but our eyes are on you."

¹³ All the men of Judah, with their wives and children and little ones, stood there before the LORD. ¹⁴ Then the Spirit of the LORD came on Jahaziel son of Zechariah, the son of Benaiah, the son of Jeiel, the son of Mattaniah, a Levite and descendant of Asaph, as he stood in the assembly.

¹⁵ He said:

"Listen, King Jehoshaphat and all who live in Judah and Jerusalem! This is what the LORD says to you: 'Do not be afraid or discouraged because of this vast army. For the battle is not yours, but God's. ¹⁶ Tomorrow march down against them. They will be climbing up by the Pass of Ziz, and you will find them at the end of the gorge in the Desert of Jeruel. ¹⁷ You will not have to fight this

battle. Take up your positions; stand firm and see the deliverance the LORD will give you, Judah and Jerusalem. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged. Go out to face them tomorrow, and the LORD will be with you.”

¹⁸ Jehoshaphat bowed down with his face to the ground, and all the people of Judah and Jerusalem fell down in worship before the LORD. ¹⁹ Then some Levites from the Kohathites and Korahites stood up and praised the LORD, the God of Israel, with a very loud voice. ²⁰ Early in the morning they left for the Desert of Tekoa. As they set out, Jehoshaphat stood and said,

“Listen to me, Judah and people of Jerusalem! Have faith in the LORD your God and you will be upheld; have faith in his prophets and you will be successful.” ²

¹ After consulting the people, Jehoshaphat appointed men to sing to the LORD and to praise him for the splendor of his holiness as they went out at the head of the army, saying:

“Give thanks to the LORD, for his love endures forever.”

²² As they began to sing and praise, the LORD set ambushes against the men of Ammon and Moab and Mount Seir who were invading Judah, and they were defeated. ²³ The Ammonites and Moabites rose up against the men from Mount Seir to destroy and annihilate them. After they finished slaughtering the men from Seir, they helped to destroy one another.

²⁴ When the men of Judah came to the place that overlooks the desert and looked toward the vast army, they saw only dead bodies lying on the ground; no one had escaped. ²⁵ So Jehoshaphat and his men went to carry off their plunder, and they found among them a great amount of equipment and clothing and also articles of value—more than they could take away. There was so much plunder that it took three days to collect it. ²⁶ On the fourth day they assembled in the Valley of Berakah, where they praised the LORD. This is why it is called the Valley of Berakah to this day. ²⁷ Then, led by Jehoshaphat, all the men of Judah and Jerusalem returned joyfully to Jerusalem, for the LORD had given them cause to rejoice over their enemies. ²⁸ They entered Jerusalem and went to the temple of the LORD with harps and lyres and trumpets. ²⁹ The fear of God came on all the surrounding kingdoms when they heard how the LORD had fought against the enemies of Israel. ³⁰ And the kingdom of Jehoshaphat was at peace, for his God had given him rest on every side. (2 Chronicles 20:1-30)

- **PRAYER – Deliverance & Worship**

Let us pray to our mighty God together:

God of us all, you are the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. You are the God of the Old Covenant and the New Covenant. You are Father, Son and Holy Spirit. You have all the power to deliver us from times of trouble and you walk with us in times of tribulation. You have promised to never leave or forsake your people. You have promised that nothing in all creation can separate us from your love in Christ. In this time when we feel surrounded by enemies too great for us to overcome, we choose to seek you with all our hearts. We stand together before you, interceding for our families and our communities and our world. As we stand before you, we worship you. We raise a hallelujah, we praise your great and victorious Name, even in the presence of our enemies. Deliver us, oh God, and rise up within your people everywhere to bring the Good News of hope and salvation in Jesus Christ. Great is the Lord, his steadfast love endures forever!

- **WORSHIP**

Let's lift up hearts of faith together as we worship the Lord. If you cannot follow along on Facebook live, here is the video link to this song. (If you cannot listen to a recording of the song, think of a hymn you know by heart or read a psalm of praise instead—Psalms 16, 23, 100, 145 are great options.)

“Raise a Hallelujah” Click Here – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G2XtRuPfaAU>

RAISE A HALLELUJAH

VERSE 1

I raise a hallelujah in the presence of my enemies
I raise a hallelujah louder than the unbelief
I raise a hallelujah my weapon is a melody
I raise a hallelujah Heaven comes to fight for me

CHORUS

I'm gonna sing in the middle of the storm
Louder and louder you're gonna hear my praises roar
Up from the ashes hope will arise
Death is defeated the King is alive

VERSE 2

I raise a hallelujah with everything inside of me
I raise a hallelujah I will watch the darkness flee
I raise a hallelujah in the middle of the mystery
I raise a hallelujah fear you lost your hold on me

BRIDGE

Sing a little louder (Sing a little louder)
Sing a little louder (Sing a little louder)
Sing a little louder (Sing a little louder)
Sing a little louder (Sing a little louder)
Sing a little louder, in the presence of my enemies
Sing a little louder, louder than the unbelief
Sing a little louder, my weapon is a melody
Sing a little louder, Heaven comes to fight for me

CCLI Song # 7119315 Jake Stevens | Jonathan David Helser | Melissa Helser | Molly Skaggs © 2018 Bethel Music Publishing CCLI License # 870332

- **SCRIPTURE**

Psalm 40:1-5

I waited patiently for the LORD; he turned to me and heard my cry. He lifted me out of the slimy pit, out of the mud and mire; he set my feet on a rock and gave me a firm place to stand. He put a new song in my mouth, a hymn of praise to our God. Many will see and fear the LORD and put their trust in him. Blessed is the one who trusts in the LORD, who does not look to the proud, to those who turn aside to false gods. Many, LORD my God, are the wonders you have done, the things you planned for us. None can compare with you; were I to speak and tell of your deeds, they would be too many to declare.

- **PRAYER – Surrender**

As important as it is for us to pray for the many, many needs of ourselves and those around us, it's also important for us to take time to release those burdens to God—to surrender to God, simply seek His presence, and listen. The rest of our prayer time will be spent surrendering our burdens, seeking the Lord's presence, and listening to Him.

This prayer exercise is a simple tool we've used before called "Palms Down, Palms Up." Begin by getting in a comfortable position, free from tensions and distractions. Close your eyes and take several deep breaths, in and out, focusing on the life-giving Breath of God.

Palms Down

Hold your palms out in front of you, representing the release of any burdens you carry for yourself, your loved ones, and the world. You might even imagine the hands of God beneath yours, catching and holding everything you release to Him. With palms facing downward, begin to identify and name all the burdens and requests you are surrendering to God...

Palms Up

Now turn your palms to face upward, representing your openness and attentiveness to receive from the Lord in all His goodness. Now that your hands are empty and open, you are ready to receive God's good provision for this moment. Imagine God pouring into your life His goodness, His love, His peace, His patience, His strength, His wisdom. Ask the Lord for what you need at this time and trust Him to provide.

- **WORSHIP**

"I Surrender All" Click Here – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7x2lpLSfq8>

I SURRENDER ALL

VERSE 1

All to Jesus I surrender
All to Him I freely give
I will ever love and trust Him
In His presence daily live

CHORUS

I surrender all
I surrender all
All to Thee my blessed Savior
I surrender all

VERSE 2

All to Jesus I surrender
Humbly at His feet I bow
Worldly pleasures all forsaken
Take me Jesus take me now

VERSE 3

All to Jesus I surrender
Make me Savior wholly Thine
Let me feel the Holy Spirit
Truly know that Thou art mine

- **SCRIPTURE**

Psalm 46:7-10

The LORD Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress. Come and see what the LORD has done, the desolations he has brought on the earth. He makes wars cease to the ends of the earth. He breaks the bow and shatters the spear; he burns the shields with fire. He says, "Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth."

- **PRAYER – Listening**

The gift of prayer is not only for us to speak our praises to God, seek God's provision for our needs, intercede for the world, and surrender our burdens to God—but also, simply to *be with* God Himself. To listen. To be still and to *know* God. This past Sunday in House Church we explored the topic of Contemplative Prayer, the prayer of seeking God for God's own sake. Let's finish this prayer vigil by contemplating the goodness of God and listening. Meditate on this word from Psalm 46:

Be still, and know that I am God

Be still, and know that I am

Be still, and know

Be still

Be

Take time to listen for the voice of God. What might God be saying to *you* at this time?

God, my heart is open and my ears are listening. What do you want me to know today? What do you want me to do this week? Who do you want me to reach out to? If it pleases you, Lord, speak, your servant is listening.

- **WORSHIP**

"Way Maker" Click Here – https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iJCV_2H9xD0

WAY MAKER

VERSE 1

You are here moving in our midst
I worship You I worship You
You are here working in this place
I worship You I worship You

CHORUS

(You are) Way Maker, Miracle Worker,
Promise Keeper
Light in the darkness, my God, that is
who You are

VERSE 2

You are here touching every heart
I worship You I worship You
You are here healing every heart
I worship You I worship You
You are here turning lives around
I worship You I worship You
You are here mending every heart
I worship You yeah I worship You Lord

BRIDGE

Even when I don't see it You're working
Even when I don't feel it You're working
You never stop You never stop working
You never stop You never stop working