

Warfare Worship

By Steve Pruitt

And when he had consulted with the people, he appointed those who should sing to the Lord, and who should praise the beauty of holiness, as they went out before the army and were saying; Praise the Lord, for his mercy endures forever.

2 Chronicles 20:21 NKJV

When Jehoshaphat was king over Judah the people of Moab, Ammon and others came to battle against him. Upon hearing the news Jehoshaphat was scared and called a fast throughout all Judah to seek the face of the Lord. In the midst of the fast the Spirit of the Lord moved on the heart of Jahaziel to prophesy God's victory for Judah over their enemies.

Now when they began to sing and to praise, the Lord set ambushes against all the people of Ammon, Moab and Mount Seir, who had come against Judah; and they were defeated. For the people of Ammon and Moab stood up against the inhabitants of Mount Seir to utterly kill and destroy them. And when they had made an end of the inhabitants of Seir, they helped to destroy one another. (2 Chronicles 20:21)

Judah didn't fight that day; God did. Judah didn't shout at the enemy. They praised their God. It is the manifest presence of God that puts the enemy to flight. Nothing gets God's attention quicker than praise and worship. God inhabits the praises of his people. We need only to position ourselves in worship and stand still to behold his salvation. I'm speaking here of more than just our expressions of praise and worship; rather a lifestyle of praise and worship. The Amplified Bible renders 2 Chronicles 20:21 this way: *When he (Jehoshaphat) had consulted with the people, he appointed singers to sing to the Lord and praise him in their holy [priestly] garments. . . .*

It isn't merely the expressions of our praise and worship that brings the presence of God. It isn't necessarily how loud we shout or how low we bow. It is the bringing of our offering clothed in our priestly garments of holiness. In other words worshiping the Lord decorated with sanctity. A life of worship is one that is decorated in holiness. That is the worship that draws the presence of God.

Though there may be times when we need to fight and address the enemy, there may also be times when we need only to address or worship the Father. He will make sure the enemy gets the message. As God is exalted with high praises we will see the kingdoms of this world become the kingdoms of our God and of his Christ.

Do you bring your praise and worship into the battle wearing holy, priestly garments? Ask the Father to give you eyes to see the battle the way he sees the battle.

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Scriptures for meditation:

2 Chronicles 20:17

Psalm 9:3

Psalm 149:5-9