



THE BATTLE IS THE LORD'S

By Bill Subritzky

How often do we find ourselves in a battle which is not of our own making? Life is full of ups and downs and just when we think we have the matter settled often something of an unexpected nature happens. It may be sickness, the death of someone close to us, a marriage breakup, the loss of our job or many other problems.

When any of these storms happen, our faith as a born-again Christian can be an immense advantage. For the born-again Christian this life is a passing phase and eternity with God is our objective. We have a different perspective from the world. Without being arrogant we realise that as we submit to God and trust Him in the name of His Son Jesus Christ, then we can come to Him at any time for help.

The Bible speaks of King Jehoshaphat who ruled in Judah several centuries before the birth of Jesus Christ. He was a man who sought God with all his heart and God blessed him. Just when everything seemed to be going well with him disaster threatened.

One day he was told that a great army was coming to attack Judah from the adjacent nations of Ammon, Moab and Seir. He was greatly alarmed.

However a prophet of God came and spoke saying, **"Do not be afraid or be dismayed because of this great multitude, for the battle is not yours, but God's."** (2 Chronicles 20:15.)

"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! Do not fear or be dismayed; tomorrow go out against them, for the Lord is with you."

King Jehoshaphat and all the people of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem bowed down to God and worshipped Him.

King Jehoshaphat told his nation, "Believe in the Lord your God, and you shall be established; believe His prophets and you shall prosper."

He then appointed a large group of people who should praise God as they went out before the army saying, "**Praise the Lord, for His mercy endures forever.**"

As they began to sing, the Lord set ambushes against the three nations attacking Judah. They fought each other and completely destroyed themselves.

When the people of Judah came and looked down from the mountain they found the whole of the enemy's army was dead. No one had escaped. It took the people of Judah three days to carry away all the spoil.

There is a lesson for all of us in this story. So often when we face a problem we want to rush in and try to fix it or we may panic and make wrong decisions.

We need to hand the matter over to the Lord and trust Him to come up with the right answer. This means continuing in daily prayer to the Lord and obeying Him in accordance with Scripture.

Jesus said, "Come to Me, all you who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light." (Matthew 11:28-30.)

In order that we may be able to trust God we need surrender our lives absolutely to Him and become born-again by receiving the Holy Spirit into our lives. Jesus has promised to send the Holy Spirit to guide us into all truth. (John 16:13.)

As we begin to walk with God we get greater confidence that all the promises of God in the Bible are true and are for the believer.

If we are going to receive the full blessings of God we must forgive everybody as God has given us at the cross of Jesus Christ. We must put God first in our lives and turn from all sin. We can do all of these things with the help of the Holy Spirit.

"Cast your burden on the Lord,
And He shall sustain you;
He shall never permit the righteous to be moved." (Psalm 55:22.)

The battle is the Lord's. Stand still and see the salvation of God.

*Compiled by Bill Subritzky and produced by Dove Ministries
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