

# Prayer Update 1059

Wednesday 2 March 2022

## God's Word for this week ... 2 Chronicles 20:1-23 (verses 3-6, 14-15, 21-23)

[A great multitude was coming against Judah for battle] Jehoshaphat was afraid; he set himself to seek the LORD, and proclaimed a fast throughout all Judah. Judah assembled to seek help from the LORD; from all the towns of Judah they came to seek the LORD. Jehoshaphat stood in the assembly of Judah and Jerusalem, in the house of the LORD, before the new court, and said, "O LORD, God of our ancestors, are You not God in Heaven? Do You not rule over all the kingdoms of the nations? In Your hand are power and might, so that no one is able to withstand You. ...

Then the Spirit of the LORD came upon Jahaziel ... and he said, "Listen, all Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem, and King Jehoshaphat: Thus says the LORD to you, 'Do not fear or be dismayed at this great multitude; for the battle is not yours but God's. ...

"Give thanks to the LORD, for his steadfast love endures forever." As they began to sing and praise, the LORD set an ambush against the Ammonites, Moab, and Mount Seir, who had come against Judah, so that they were routed. For the Ammonites and Moab attacked the inhabitants of Mount Seir, destroying them utterly; and when they had made an end of the inhabitants of Seir, they all helped to destroy one another.

## "The Daily" devotions – These commence today!

Please see last week's *Prayer Update 1058* for details about "The Daily" devotions, which start today. They are short, emailed, daily devotions which run until Resurrection Sunday. If you would like to receive these, and have not already done so, please send a **blank** email to us at [ifnz@xtra.co.nz](mailto:ifnz@xtra.co.nz) with the **Subject:** The Daily devotions. We will reply with further details and the link to enrol. They commence today, so please reply as soon as possible!

## Pray for the Nation – the Aims

The aims of *Pray for the Nation* have always been ...

To glorify God by uniting Christians throughout the nation in praying regularly and specifically for our nation, the government, and the Church; for revival and evangelism.

The first two aims are: 1. Uniting Christians. 2. Praying regularly and specifically.

1. Where there is discord and disunity, a goal becomes self-defeating, and is either not achieved, or the result is far from what was aimed for. We all have our own ideas about different issues but fighting over them will not achieve our goals. A good example is found in 2 Chronicles 20:1-23 [a few verses are quoted above, but read the whole passage!]

Who brought the victory they needed? The LORD did! – in answer to Judah seeking Him; their **prayer** to Him in **faith**, not fear; keeping their **eyes** on Him; worshipping and thanking Him for victory ... **and** the enemy was divided and destroyed one another! United prayer by Judah brought defeat for the opposition!

*Disunity* is destructive! Judah's *united prayer*, and faith, brought victory!

2. God's Word also instructs us to "*pray without ceasing*" (1 Thessalonians 5:17). We can't do this individually, but together we can! Also, Jesus said, "Whatever you ask for in prayer *with faith*, you will receive." (Matthew 21:22). "Faith comes from what is heard, and what is heard comes through the word of Christ" (Romans 10:17).

**Prayer Suggestion:** As you pray, including when you pray with others, ask the Lord how He wants you to pray. You may have things on your heart to pray for, or God may reveal what to pray for, and how to pray. Pray in unity if you are with others; pray specifically; and persevere in prayer. Remember Jehoshaphat and Judah's example, in the verses above!