



Praise Wins Every Battle



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Praise Wins Every Battle!

Text: Acts 16:25 *And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them. ²⁶ And suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken: and immediately all the doors were opened, and everyone's bands were loosed.*

Introduction: The power of your gratitude, praise and thanksgiving is God's Supernatural Force to recon with every form of darkness. When we take the high road of not reacting to life's conflicts but see people and life with gratitude, everything shifts to God's dimension!

- David praises God despite going through a dark season.

Psalms 22:3 (ESV) *Yet you are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel*

Psalms 107:15 *Oh that men would praise the LORD for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men! ¹⁶ For he hath broken the gates of brass, and cut the bars of iron in sunder*

1. Praise Wins Every Battle!

What has you oppressed? It is time to turn the tide and let gratitude rule your atmosphere.

- Even in the direst circumstance find something to be grateful for!
- Have an attitude of Gratitude!
- Turn your crisis into a place of His Praise!
- Make a Gratitude Journal every Day!

Israel faces insurmountable odds

2 Chronicles 20:1-5 (NLT) *After this, the armies of the Moabites, Ammonites, and some of the Meunites declared war on Jehoshaphat. ² Messengers came and told Jehoshaphat, "A vast army from Edom is marching against you from beyond the Dead Sea. They are already at Hazazon-tamar." (This was another name for En-gedi.) ³ Jehoshaphat was terrified by this news and begged the Lord for guidance. He also ordered everyone in Judah to begin fasting. ⁴ So people from all the towns of Judah came to Jerusalem to seek the Lord's help. ⁵ Jehoshaphat stood before the community of Judah and Jerusalem in front of the new courtyard at the Temple of the Lord.*

Take God at HIS WORD!

- Take The Promises of God into battle!

1 Timothy 1:18 *This charge I commit unto thee, son Timothy, according to the prophecies which went before on thee, that thou by them mightest war a good warfare;*

2 Chronicles 20:6-13 *He prayed, "O LORD, God of our ancestors, you alone are the God who is in heaven. You are ruler of all the kingdoms of the earth. You are powerful and mighty; no one can stand against you! ⁷ O our God, did you not drive out those who lived in this land when your people Israel arrived? And did you not give this land forever to the descendants of your friend Abraham? ⁸ Your people settled here and built this Temple to honor your name. ⁹ They said, 'Whenever we are faced with any calamity such as war, ¹⁰ plague, or famine, we can come to stand in your presence before this Temple where your name is honored. We can cry out to you to save us, and you will hear us and rescue us.' ¹¹ "And now see what the armies of Ammon, Moab, and Mount Seir are doing. You would not let our ancestors invade those nations when Israel left Egypt, so they went around them and did not destroy them. ¹² Now see how they reward us! For they have come to throw us out of your land, which you gave us as an inheritance. ¹³ O our God, won't you stop them? We are powerless against this mighty army that is about to attack us. We do not know what to do, but we are looking to you for help." ¹⁴ As all the men of Judah stood before the Lord with their little ones, wives, and children,*

- There is POWER in your WEAKNESS!
- The Apostle Paul in a similar circumstance with the enemy repeatedly beating him up asked God to remove the THORN! God replied!

2 Corinthians 12:9 (KJV) *And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. ¹⁴ the Spirit of the LORD came upon one of the men standing there. His name was Jahaziel son of Zechariah, son of Benaiah, son of Jeiel, son of Mattaniah, a Levite who was a descendant of Asaph.*

- This battle is not yours but it is God's!

¹⁵ He said, "Listen, all you people of Judah and Jerusalem! Listen, King Jehoshaphat! **This is what the LORD says: Do not be afraid! Don't be discouraged by this mighty army, for the battle is not yours, but God's.** ¹⁶ Tomorrow, march out against them. You will find them coming up through the ascent of Ziz at the end of the valley that opens into the wilderness of Jeruel. ¹⁷ But you will not even need to fight. Take your positions; then stand still and watch the LORD's victory. He is with you, O people of Judah and Jerusalem. **Do not be afraid or discouraged. Go out against them tomorrow, for the LORD is with you!"**

- It is time to praise!

- **Make a Gratitude Journal every Day!**

¹⁸ Then King Jehoshaphat bowed low with his face to the ground. And all the people of Judah and Jerusalem did the same, worshipping the LORD. ¹⁹ Then the Levites from the clans of Kohath and Korah **stood to praise the LORD, the God of Israel, with a very loud shout.** ²⁰ Early the next morning the army of Judah went out into the wilderness of Tekoa. On the way Jehoshaphat stopped and said, **“Listen to me, all you people of Judah and Jerusalem! Believe in the LORD your God, and you will be able to stand firm. Believe in his prophets, and you will succeed.”**

- **Give praise in the midst of the conflict! MOVE OUT IN PRAISE!**

2 Chronicles 20:20 KJV And when he had consulted with the people, he appointed singers unto the Lord, and that should praise the beauty of holiness, **as they went out before the army, and to say, Praise the Lord; for his mercy endureth for ever.**

²¹ After consulting the people, the king appointed singers to walk ahead of the army, singing to the Lord and praising him for his holy splendor. **This is what they sang: “Give thanks to the Lord; his faithful love endures forever!”**

- **At the very moment they began to PRAISE!**

²² **At the very moment they began to sing and give praise,** the Lord caused the armies of Ammon, Moab, and Mount Seir to start fighting among themselves. ²³ The armies of Moab and Ammon turned against their allies from Mount Seir and killed every one of them. After they had destroyed the army of Seir, they began attacking each other. ²⁴ So when the army of Judah arrived at the lookout point in the wilderness, all they saw were dead bodies lying on the ground as far as they could see. Not a single one of the enemy had escaped.

- **3 days to gather the spoils**

²⁵ King Jehoshaphat and his men went out to gather the plunder. They found vast amounts of equipment, clothing and other valuables—more than they could carry. There was so much plunder that it took them three days just to collect it all! ²⁶ On the fourth day they gathered in the Valley of Blessing, which got its name that day because the people praised and thanked the Lord there. It is still called the Valley of Blessing today. ²⁷ Then all the men returned to Jerusalem, with Jehoshaphat leading them, overjoyed that the Lord had given them victory over their enemies. ²⁸ They marched into Jerusalem to the music of harps, lyres, and trumpets, and they proceeded to the Temple of the Lord. ²⁹ When all the surrounding kingdoms heard that the Lord himself had fought against the enemies of Israel, the fear of God came over them. ³⁰ So Jehoshaphat’s kingdom was at peace, for his God had given him rest on every side.

- **Make a gratitude Journal every Day for the rest of the month!**
- **Find something to give thanks for in every conflict**

2. Generosity your key to Abundance

2 Corinthians 9:5b (NLT) ...But I want it to be a willing gift, not one given grudgingly. ⁶ Remember this—a farmer who plants only a few seeds will get a small crop. But the one who plants generously will get a generous crop. ⁷ **You must each decide in your heart how much to give. And don’t give reluctantly or in response to pressure. “For God loves a person who gives cheerfully.”** ⁸ **And God will generously provide all you need. Then you will always have everything you need and plenty left over to share with others.**

2 Corinthians 8:1-5 (NLT) “Now I want you to know, dear brothers and sisters, what God in his kindness has done through the churches in Macedonia. They are being tested by many troubles, and they are very poor. **But they are also filled with abundant joy, which has overflowed in rich generosity. For I can testify that they gave not only what they could afford, but far more. And they did it of their own free will.** They begged us again and again for the privilege of sharing in the gift for the believers in Jerusalem. They even did more than we had hoped, for their first action was to give themselves to the Lord and to us, just as God wanted them to do.”

Acts 20:35 (NLT): And I have been a constant example of how you can help those in need by working hard. You should remember the words of the Lord Jesus: “It is more blessed to give than to receive.”

Malachi 3:10 (NLT): Bring all the tithes into the storehouse so there will be enough food in my Temple. If you do,’ says the LORD of Heaven’s Armies, ‘I will open the windows of heaven for you. I will pour out a blessing so great you won’t have enough room to take it in! Try it! Put me to the test!’

- **The testimony of the early Church**

Acts 4:32-35 (NLT): All the believers were united in heart and mind. And they felt that what they owned was not their own, so they shared everything they had. The apostles testified powerfully to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and God’s great blessing was upon them all. There were no needy people among them, because those who owned land or houses would sell them and bring the money to the apostles to give to those in need.

Heart for Humanity report! 440 cars Saturday! 72 new families who never have been here before! 25+ volunteers were sorting, packing, and praying! We had Another church run out of food but through God’s Grace we had abundance for the need! Next Sunday - Redner’s Grocery store giving time for Victory to collect food at 4 stores: 1 Maryland and 3 in Delaware ** We are preparing 400 turkey boxes with all fixings

Youth and Young Adult Ministry Report! - We paid \$10,000 down on the project now \$51,000 to go in the next two weeks!