**“Stand And See…”**

Prepared by Nathan L Morrison for Sunday March 10th, 2019

Text: II Chr. 20:1-30; I Pet. 5:6-7

### Intro

1. II Chr. 20:1-4:
   1. The “sons of Moab and the sons of Ammon, together with some of the Meunites” came against Judah and King Jehoshaphat with an innumerable force (20:25).
   2. Jehoshaphat gathered the people of Judah to Jerusalem with their families (20:13) at the Temple (20:5) that they might seek after the Lord!
2. Rom. 15:4: These things are written for our instruction that we might have hope!
3. What do we do when we find ourselves facing trials, battles we can’t win?
   1. Gal. 6:2: We are to bear one another’s burdens. Jehoshaphat didn’t deal with it alone, but gathered the people!
   2. I Pet. 5:6-7: We are to cast our “anxiety” (NAS), “all our care” (NKJ) on God. Jehoshaphat not only shared his burden, but took it to the Lord! (II Tim. 2:15)
4. This account gives us hope in dealing with life’s trials and insurmountable battles! Jehoshaphat and the people…

#### Sought Help From the Lord

* 1. II Chr. 20:5-13:
     1. This was a problem too big for Judah, but not for God!
     2. Jehoshaphat reminded God of His promises and admitted their weaknesses and said, “We are powerless before this great multitude who are coming against us; nor do we know what to do, but our eyes are on You.” (20:12)
     3. The people were gathered with their families…a picture of human despair and great faith in God as they awaited an answer!
  2. There are some problems in life that arise that we don’t know the answer to, or know what to do!
  3. ***How do we handle it?***
     1. Some people look in all the wrong places for the answers: Google, Facebook, internet in general, drugs, alcohol, etc. Things that will help ignore the trouble! *(False answers)*
  4. Take it to the Lord! (Seek for answers in what we are dealing with!)
     1. I Pet. 5:7: Saints need to turn to God, the One with the answers!
     2. Phil. 4:6-7; Col. 4:2; Js. 5:16: We turn to God in “prayer and supplication” (Petition, request), with thanksgiving!
     3. Ps. 119:105; Prov. 6:23: God’s word is our guide, a light to our path! (II Tim. 2:15)
  5. When we are in trouble and in need, take it to God in prayer and study!

#### Stayed In the House of the Lord

* 1. II Chr. 20:5, 13:

1. Jehoshaphat took his problem (and the problem of the all the people) to God and stayed in God’s House (Temple) till he received an answer. (II Chr. 20:14-17: God’s answer)
2. He reminded God that they were facing the temple (20:9) in accordance with Solomon’s prayer at the dedication of the temple *(I Kings 8:30-52).* 
   1. While we can’t stand in the physical temple, in a symbolic way, we can keep our faith by not leaving the church! *(Not the physical building, but the family of God – I Tim. 3:15).*
3. Js. 4:8: “Draw near to God, and He will draw near to you!”
   1. Don’t let trials/seeming insurmountable battles take you from God!
      1. Rom. 8:18: Nothing in this life, no matter how bad, can compare to the glory waiting to come!
      2. Heb. 10:32-39: The Hebrew audience had suffered greatly and endured with it with joy, but were warned, “Do not throw away your confidence” *(10:35).*
      3. God has “no pleasure” with those who “shrink back,” but “we are not of those who shrink back to destruction,” but are those whose faith will persevere!
      4. *So many people give up and forsake their faith (God) in their hours of need!*
   2. When we are in trouble and in need, don’t forsake your faith, but draw near to God!

#### Worshiped & Praised God

* 1. II Chr. 20:14-22:
     1. Upon hearing the word of God (from Jahaziel), they praised Him and worshiped Him, and thanked Him!
     2. Their troubles were still there, but they had faith in God that He would take care of it! (God said they didn’t have to fight – The battle belonged to Him!)
     3. They didn’t wait till ***after*** they were delivered, they praised and thanked Him after seeking Him!
     4. The next day, when they began singing and praising God, God routed the enemy! (God said, “Stand and See the Salvation of the Lord!” – *Ex. 14:13)*
  2. We are to give our trials to God *(I Pet. 5:7)* but pray to Him with thanksgiving and praise as well *(Phil. 4:6; Col. 4:2).*
     1. Mt. 6:7-8: God knows our needs before we ask for it!
     2. Heb. 13:15: We are to sing and give praise to God!
     3. I Jn. 3:21-22: When we ask in faith (Js. 1:6) and keep the commands of God, He will hear and answer us!
     4. We must be humble and willing to receive the answer *(II Cor. 12:7-10: Paul’s “thorn in the flesh” was not removed, but he exalted God).*
     5. Rev. 4:11: God is worthy of our praise and thanksgiving!

## When we are in trouble and in need, let us pray, praise, and give thanks to God!

## Conclusion

1. The battle belongs to the Lord!
   1. II Chr. 20:15, 17: King Jehoshaphat and the people of Judah were told not to worry because the battle was not theirs, but the battle belonged to God.
   2. II Chr. 20:22-24: The Lord caused that great force of enemies to destroy themselves!
2. God’s answers to our prayers often are not what we might expect but greater!
   1. II Chr. 20:25-30: It took 3 days to plunder the spoil of the battle they didn’t even have to fight! *God took care of His people!*
   2. King Jehoshaphat was granted peace because his enemies feared God! (20:29-30)
   3. Eph. 3:20-21: God is “able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or think.”
      1. God is Almighty (Omnipotent = All Powerful) and can do far more than we ask or even think! *(“Stand still and know that I am God” – Ps. 46:10)*
3. What do you do when you are in distress and fighting the seeming losing battle of life’s trials?
4. Let us learn the example of King Jehoshaphat! *(Rom. 15:4; II Chr. 20)* ***Stand and See!***
   1. Seek the Lord: I Pet. 5:6-7: We are to cast our “anxiety” (NAS), “all our care” (NKJ) on God – ***Take it to the Lord in prayer!*** (Ps. 50:15) – *Be ready for the answer!*
   2. Draw near to God: James 4:8: When we draw near to God He will draw near to us!
      1. The church is our family so that we always know we are not alone!
      2. Gal. 6:2: We are to bear one another’s burdens – ***Take it to your brethren!***
   3. Give praise & thanks to God no matter our situation: Phil. 4:6-7: God is in control and provides a peace like no other!
      1. II Tim. 2:15: Seek God’s counsel in His word! *(Ps. 119:105)*
5. If we (like King Jehoshaphat) seek the Lord and stand and see (our faith in God), we’ll see the salvation of the Lord! (deliverance may not happen in this lifetime but we need to trust in Him)
6. If you are not a Christian, you need to be. Repent and be baptized into His name!
7. If a Christian in error, don’t wait till it’s eternally too late. Repent and be renewed!
8. Whatever your requests, let them be made known ***NOW*** while we stand & sing!