

2 Chronicles 20

Chapter 20 of 36 · 37 Verses · Authorized King James Version

Jehoshaphat Defeats Moab and Ammon

¹ It came to pass after this also, that the children of Moab, and the children of Ammon, and with them other beside the Ammonites, came against Jehoshaphat to battle.

² Then there came some that told Jehoshaphat, saying, There cometh a great multitude against thee from beyond the sea on this side Syria; and, behold, they be in Hazazon-tamar, which is En-gedi.

³ And Jehoshaphat feared, and set himself to seek the LORD, and proclaimed a fast throughout all Judah.

⁴ And Judah gathered themselves together, to ask help of the LORD: even out of all the cities of Judah they came to seek the LORD.

⁵ And Jehoshaphat stood in the congregation of Judah and Jerusalem, in the house of the LORD, before the new court,

⁶ And said, O LORD God of our fathers, art not thou God in heaven? and rulest not thou over all the kingdoms of the heathen? and in thine hand is there not power and might, so that none is able to withstand thee?

⁷ Art not thou our God, who didst drive out the inhabitants of this land before thy people Israel, and gavest it to the seed of Abraham thy friend for ever?

⁸ And they dwelt therein, and have built thee a sanctuary therein for thy name, saying,

9 If, when evil cometh upon us, as the sword, judgment, or pestilence, or famine, we stand before this house, and in thy presence, (for thy name is in this house,) and cry unto thee in our affliction, then thou wilt hear and help.

10 And now, behold, the children of Ammon and Moab and mount Seir, whom thou wouldest not let Israel invade, when they came out of the land of Egypt, but they turned from them, and destroyed them not;

11 Behold, I say, how they reward us, to come to cast us out of thy possession, which thou hast given us to inherit.

12 O our God, wilt thou not judge them? for we have no might against this great company that cometh against us; neither know we what to do: but our eyes are upon thee.

13 And all Judah stood before the LORD, with their little ones, their wives, and their children.

14 Then upon Jahaziel the son of Zechariah, the son of Benaiah, the son of Jeiel, the son of Mattaniah, a Levite of the sons of Asaph, came the Spirit of the LORD in the midst of the congregation;

15 And he said, Hearken ye, all Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem, and thou king Jehoshaphat, Thus saith the LORD unto you, Be not afraid nor dismayed by reason of this great multitude; for the battle is not your's, but God's.

16 To morrow go ye down against them: behold, they come up by the cliff of Ziz; and ye shall find them at the end of the brook, before the wilderness of Jeruel.

17 Ye shall not need to fight in this battle: set yourselves, stand ye still, and see the salvation of the LORD with you, O Judah and Jerusalem: fear not, nor be dismayed; to morrow go out against them: for the LORD will be with you.

18 And Jehoshaphat bowed his head with his face to the ground: and all Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem fell before the LORD, worshipping the LORD.

19 And the Levites, of the children of the Kohathites, and of the children of the Korhites, stood up to praise the LORD God of Israel with a loud voice on high.

20 And they rose early in the morning, and went forth into the wilderness of Tekoa: and as they went forth, Jehoshaphat stood and said, Hear me, O Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem; Believe in the LORD your God, so shall ye be established; believe his prophets, so shall ye prosper.

21 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.

22 And when they began to sing and to praise, the LORD set ambushments against the children of Ammon, Moab, and mount Seir, which were come against Judah; and they were smitten.

23 For the children of Ammon and Moab stood up against the inhabitants of mount Seir, utterly to slay and destroy them: and when they had made an end of the inhabitants of Seir, every one helped to destroy another.

24 And when Judah came toward the watch tower in the wilderness, they looked unto the multitude, and, behold, they were dead bodies fallen to the earth, and none escaped.

25 And when Jehoshaphat and his people came to take away the spoil of them, they found among them in abundance both riches with the dead bodies, and precious jewels, which they stripped off for themselves, more than they could carry away: and they were three days in gathering of the spoil, it was so much.

26 And on the fourth day they assembled themselves in the valley of Berachah; for there they blessed the LORD: therefore the name of the same place was called, The valley of Berachah, unto this day.

27 Then they returned, every man of Judah and Jerusalem, and Jehoshaphat in the forefront of them, to go again to Jerusalem with joy; for the LORD had made them to rejoice over their enemies.

28 And they came to Jerusalem with psalteries and harps and trumpets unto the house of the LORD.

29 And the fear of God was on all the kingdoms of those countries, when they had heard that the LORD fought against the enemies of Israel.

30 So the realm of Jehoshaphat was quiet: for his God gave him rest round about.

The End of Jehoshaphat's Reign

31 And Jehoshaphat reigned over Judah: he was thirty and five years old when he began to reign, and he reigned twenty and five years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Azubah the daughter of Shilhi.

32 And he walked in the way of Asa his father, and departed not from it, doing that which was right in the sight of the LORD.

33 Howbeit the high places were not taken away: for as yet the people had not prepared their hearts unto the God of their fathers.

34 Now the rest of the acts of Jehoshaphat, first and last, behold, they are written in the book of Jehu the son of Hanani, who is mentioned in the book of the kings of Israel.

35 And after this did Jehoshaphat king of Judah join himself with Ahaziah king of Israel, who did very wickedly:

36 And he joined himself with him to make ships to go to Tarshish: and they made the ships in Ezion-geber.

37 Then Eliezer the son of Dodavah of Maresah prophesied against Jehoshaphat, saying, Because thou hast joined thyself with Ahaziah, the LORD hath broken thy works. And the ships were broken, that they were not able to go to Tarshish.

HEBREW & GREEK WORD STUDIES

God — אֱלֹהִים (Elohim)

God (plural of majesty)

The Hebrew **Elohim** (אֱלֹהִים) is a plural form denoting majesty and fullness of deity. Though grammatically plural, it takes singular verbs when referring to the one true God, suggesting the Trinity's plurality within unity.

Heaven — שָׁמַיִם (Shamayim)

Heaven, sky

The Hebrew **shamayim** (שָׁמַיִם) means heaven or sky—God's dwelling place and the realm above earth. 'The heaven, even the heavens, are the LORD's' (Psalm 115:16), yet 'the heaven of heavens cannot contain Him' (1 Kings 8:27).

Kingdom — מַלְכוּת (Malkhut)

Kingdom, reign, royal power

The Hebrew **malkhut** (מַלְכוּת) denotes kingdom or royal rule—the realm and reign of a king. God's kingdom represents His sovereign rule over all creation.

Lord — יְהוָה / אֲדֹנָי (YHWH / Adonai)

The LORD / Lord

When 'LORD' appears in small capitals, it represents the Tetragrammaton **YHWH** (יְהוָה), God's personal covenant name meaning 'I AM.' When 'Lord' appears normally, it's **Adonai** (אֲדֹנָי), meaning 'my Lord,' emphasizing sovereignty.

Love — אַהֲבָה / חֶסֶד (Ahavah / Chesed)

Love / Loyal-love

Hebrew uses **ahavah** (אַהֲבָה) for love generally, but the covenant term **chesed** (חֶסֶד) describes God's steadfast, loyal love—faithful covenant commitment beyond mere emotion.

Salvation — יְשׁוּעָה (Yeshuah)

Salvation, deliverance

The Hebrew **yeshuah** (יְשׁוּעָה) means salvation or deliverance—rescue from danger or enemies. This is the root of 'Jesus' (Yeshua), meaning 'YHWH saves.'

Save — יָשַׁע (Yasha)

To save, deliver, rescue

The Hebrew **yasha** (יָשַׁע) means to save or deliver—rescue from danger or distress. This is the root of 'Jesus' (Yeshua), meaning 'YHWH saves.' God alone is Savior: 'I, even I, am the LORD; and beside me there is no saviour' (Isaiah 43:11).

Spirit — רוּחַ (Ruach)

Spirit, wind, breath

The Hebrew **ruach** (רוּחַ) means spirit, wind, or breath—invisible but powerful. It describes both the Holy Spirit and the human spirit. God's Spirit gives life and empowers His people.

CROSS REFERENCES

2 Chronicles 20:2 **Parallel theme:** Genesis 14:7; 1 Samuel 23:29

2 Chronicles 20:3 **Parallel theme:** 2 Chronicles 19:3; Esther 4:16; Matthew 10:28.

References Lord: 2 Chronicles 11:16; Judges 20:26; 1 Samuel 7:6; Jeremiah 36:9; Daniel 9:3; Joel 1:14; Jonah 1:16

2 Chronicles 20:4 **Parallel theme:** Psalms 50:15; 69:35

2 Chronicles 20:6 **References God:** Deuteronomy 4:39; Joshua 2:11; 1 Kings 8:23; Psalms 115:3; Acts 11:17. **Kingdom:** Psalms 47:8; Daniel 4:17; Matthew 6:13. **References Lord:** Isaiah 66:1. **Parallel theme:** Matthew 6:9

2 Chronicles 20:7

References Abraham: Joshua 24:3; Isaiah 41:8. **Parallel theme:** Genesis 12:7; 13:15; Exodus 33:2; Nehemiah 9:8; Psalms 44:2. **References God:** James 2:23

2 Chronicles 20:9 **Parallel theme:** 2 Chronicles 6:20; Exodus 20:24; 1 Kings 8:33; 8:37

2 Chronicles 20:10 **Parallel theme:** 2 Chronicles 20:1; Deuteronomy 2:9; 2:19

2 Chronicles 20:12 **Parallel theme:** Psalms 25:15; Jonah 2:4. **References God:** 2 Samuel 14:11; Psalms 141:8. **Judgment:** Deuteronomy 32:36; Judges 11:27; 1 Samuel 3:13; Psalms 9:19; 43:1; Revelation 19:11

2 Chronicles 20:14 **Spirit:** 2 Chronicles 15:1; 24:20

2 Chronicles 20:15 **References God:** Deuteronomy 20:1; 20:4; 31:6. **References Lord:** Deuteronomy 31:8; Joshua 11:6; 1 Samuel 17:47; Nehemiah 4:14

2 Chronicles 20:17

References Lord: 2 Chronicles 15:2; 32:8; Numbers 14:9; Psalms 46:7. **Parallel theme:** Isaiah 41:10; Matthew 1:23; 28:20; Romans 8:31. **Salvation:** Isaiah 30:15; Lamentations 3:26

2 Chronicles 20:18

Worship: 2 Chronicles 7:3; Genesis 24:26; Exodus 4:31; Job 1:20; Psalms 95:6

2 Chronicles 20:19

References God: 1 Chronicles 16:42. **Resurrection:** 1 Chronicles 23:5. **Parallel theme:** 1 Chronicles 16:5

2 Chronicles 20:20 **Faith:** Exodus 14:31; Isaiah 7:9; 26:3; John 11:40; 14:1; Hebrews 11:6. **References God:** Romans 8:31. **Prophecy:** Luke 16:31. **Parallel theme:** John 13:20. **References Jerusalem:** Jeremiah 6:1

2 Chronicles 20:21 **Grace:** 2 Chronicles 5:13; 7:3; 7:6; 1 Chronicles 16:34; Psalms 106:1; 107:1; Jeremiah 33:11. **Holy:** 1 Chronicles 16:29; Psalms 29:2; 96:9

2 Chronicles 20:22 **References Lord:** Judges 7:22; 2 Kings 6:17; Ezekiel 38:21. **Parallel theme:** 2 Chronicles 20:10; 1 Samuel 14:20; Isaiah 19:2

2 Chronicles 20:23 **Parallel theme:** Joshua 24:4; Judges 7:22; 1 Samuel 14:20

2 Chronicles 20:25 **Parallel theme:** Numbers 31:15; Psalms 68:12; Proverbs 3:15

2 Chronicles 20:26 **References Lord:** 1 Samuel 7:12; 2 Samuel 22:1; Isaiah 62:4. **Parallel theme:** 2 Chronicles 5:9; Genesis 32:20; Exodus 17:15. **Blessing:** Luke 1:68

2 Chronicles 20:27 **Creation:** Nehemiah 12:43

2 Chronicles 20:29 **Kingdom:** 2 Chronicles 17:10; 2 Kings 7:6. **References God:** Genesis 35:5. **References Lord:** 2 Chronicles 14:14

2 Chronicles 20:30 **Parallel theme:** 2 Chronicles 15:15

2 Chronicles 20:32
References Lord: 1 Kings 15:11; Psalms 18:21. **Parallel theme:** Psalms 36:3

2 Chronicles 20:33 **Parallel theme:** 2 Chronicles 12:14; 17:6. **References God:** 2 Chronicles 19:3

2 Chronicles 20:34
Parallel theme: 1 Kings 16:1. **Kingdom:** 2 Chronicles 19:2; 1 Kings 16:7

2 Chronicles 20:37
Parallel theme: 2 Chronicles 9:21; Proverbs 13:20. **References Lord:** 2 Chronicles 19:2