

2 Chronicles 20:15

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

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.

Analysis

God's response through Jahaziel 'Be not afraid nor dismayed by reason of this great multitude; for the battle is not yours, but God's' transforms crisis into trust. The command against fear and dismay acknowledges natural human response to overwhelming odds. The theological pivot - 'the battle is not yours, but God's' (not 'your battle' but 'God's battle') - relieves pressure while requiring faith. This principle appears throughout Scripture when God's people face impossible situations. It demonstrates that spiritual warfare and kingdom advancement come through divine power, not human effort. This points to Christ's victory where believers are spectators and beneficiaries rather than combatants.

Historical Context

Delivered before battle (c. 853 BCE), this prophetic word required faith to obey - marching to battle while trusting God to fight. The subsequent victory without Judah striking a blow (20:22-24) confirmed the word's truth and became a testimony to surrounding nations.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Romans 10:9 – Confession and belief for salvation

Study Questions

1. What battle are you fighting in your own strength that you need to recognize as 'God's battle'?
2. How does knowing the battle belongs to God change your strategy, attitude, and expectations?

Interlinear Text

וְיִשְׁבּוּ	בְּיַהוּדָה	כָּל	פְּקֻשָּׁה	יְבוֹם	אַמְּרָה	יְרוּשָׁלָם
And he said	Hearken	H3605	ye all Judah	and ye inhabitants	of Jerusalem	
H559	H7181		H3063	H3427		H3389
וְיִשְׁבּוּ לְהָ	בְּיַהוּדָה	כָּל	אַמְּרָה	יְהוָה	לְכָל	אֶל
and thou king	Jehoshaphat	H3541	And he said	the LORD	H0	H859
H4428	H3092		H559	H3068		H408
בְּקָרְבָּן	בְּקָרְבָּן	וְעַל	מִפְנֵי	תְּמִימָה	בְּקָרְבָּן	בְּקָרְבָּן
unto you Be not afraid		H408	nor dismayed	by reason	multitude	of this great
H3372			H2865	H6440	H1995	H7227
לְאֱלֹהִים:	בְּמָלְכָתְךָ	לְאָמֵן	כִּי	כִּי	לְאֱלֹהִים:	לְאֱלֹהִים:
H2088	H3588	H3808	H0	for the battle	H3588	is not yours but God's
				H4421		H430

Additional Cross-References

Deuteronomy 31:6 (References God): Be strong and of a good courage, fear not, nor be afraid of them: for the LORD thy God, he it is that doth go with thee; he will not fail thee, nor forsake thee.

Deuteronomy 31:8 (References Lord): And the LORD, he it is that doth go before thee; he will be with thee, he will not fail thee, neither forsake thee: fear not, neither be dismayed.

1 Samuel 17:47 (References Lord): And all this assembly shall know that the LORD saveth not with sword and spear: for the battle is the LORD'S, and he will give you into our hands.

Deuteronomy 20:1 (References God): When thou goest out to battle against thine enemies, and seest horses, and chariots, and a people more than thou, be not afraid of them: for the LORD thy God is with thee, which brought thee up out of the land of Egypt.

Deuteronomy 20:4 (References God): For the LORD your God is he that goeth with you, to fight for you against your enemies, to save you.

Joshua 11:6 (References Lord): And the LORD said unto Joshua, Be not afraid because of them: for to morrow about this time will I deliver them up all slain before Israel: thou shalt hough their horses, and burn their chariots with fire.

Nehemiah 4:14 (References Lord): And I looked, and rose up, and said unto the nobles, and to the rulers, and to the rest of the people, Be not ye afraid of them: remember the Lord, which is great and terrible, and fight for your brethren, your sons, and your daughters, your wives, and your houses.

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