

2 Chronicles 20:17

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

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.

Analysis

The prophetic word continues: '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.' The command combines apparent contradictions - 'go out' (active) yet 'not fight' (passive), 'set yourselves' (prepare) yet 'stand still' (don't act). This tension requires faith: obey the summons to battle while trusting God to fight. 'See the salvation of the LORD' echoes Moses at the Red Sea (Exodus 14:13-14). Fear and dismay are forbidden because 'the LORD will be with you.' This prefigures Christ's victory where believers contribute nothing to salvation yet must respond in faith and obedience.

Historical Context

This prophetic strategy (c. 853 BCE) tested Judah's faith - march to battle but don't fight. Their obedience resulted in enemies destroying each other (20:22-23), vindicating God's word. This became a testimony that salvation belongs to the LORD alone.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. What 'battles' is God calling you to enter while trusting Him to fight rather than relying on your efforts?
2. How can you balance active obedience ('go out') with passive trust ('stand still') in your current challenges?

Interlinear Text

לֹא לְכָם	לְהִלָּחֵם	בְּזֶאת	הַתִּיָּצֵב וְ	עַמְּדוּ וְ	
H3808	H0				
	Ye shall not need to fight	in this	battle set	yourselves stand	
	H3898	H2063	H3320	H5975	
וְרָא וְ	אֶת	יְשׁוּעַת	יְהוָה הַ	עַמְּךָ וְ	יְהוּדָה הַ
	H853			H5973	
ye still and see	the salvation	of the LORD		with you O Judah	
H7200	H3444	H3068		H3063	
וִירוּשָׁלַם	אֶל	וְאֶל	תִּהְיוּ	מָחָר	צֵאוּ וְ
	H408				
and Jerusalem	fear		not nor be dismayed	to morrow	go out
H3389	H3372	H408	H2865	H4279	H3318
לְפָנֶיהָ	יְהוָה הַ	עַמְּכֶם:			
against	of the LORD				
H6440	H3068	H5973			

Additional Cross-References

2 Chronicles 15:2 (References Lord): And he went out to meet Asa, and said unto him, Hear ye me, Asa, and all Judah and Benjamin; The LORD is with you, while ye be with him; and if ye seek him, he will be found of you; but if ye forsake him, he will forsake you.

Isaiah 41:10 (Parallel theme): Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

Matthew 28:20 (Parallel theme): Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

2 Chronicles 32:8 (References Lord): With him is an arm of flesh; but with us is the LORD our God to help us, and to fight our battles. And the people rested themselves upon the words of Hezekiah king of Judah.

Lamentations 3:26 (Salvation): It is good that a man should both hope and quietly wait for the salvation of the LORD.

Numbers 14:9 (References Lord): Only rebel not ye against the LORD, neither fear ye the people of the land; for they are bread for us: their defence is departed from them, and the LORD is with us: fear them not.

Psalms 46:7 (References Lord): The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. Selah.

Romans 8:31 (Parallel theme): What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?

Isaiah 30:15 (Salvation): For thus saith the Lord GOD, the Holy One of Israel; In returning and rest shall ye be saved; in quietness and in confidence shall be your strength: and ye would not.

Matthew 1:23 (Parallel theme): Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.

