Fear Not BY Malusi Skunyana

Read 2 Chronicles 20:15-17

2CH 20:15 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 yours, but God's.

2CH 20:16 Tomorrow 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.

2CH 20:17 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; tomorrow go out against them: for the LORD [will be] with you.

When the storms of life break upon us there is no safety for us anywhere else except under the wings of the Omnipotent God. It is total dependence upon God that is needed in such trying times. When we are perplexed and hard-pressed on every side it is best for us to look to God for help.

Toward the close of King Jehoshaphat’s reign, three nations came to make war against Judah – Moab, Ammon, and Mount Seir. Jehoshaphat and all Judah were terrified at the tidings of the invasion. Jehoshaphat proclaimed a national fast in all the land of Judah, demonstrating his sincere dependence on God in face of national crisis. Standing in the temple court before his people, he poured out his soul in prayer, pleading God’s promises, with confession of Israel’s helplessness. Jehoshaphat spoke for the people as he recalled God’s sovereign faithfulness and power. He based his petition for help on God’s history and promises with His people. Jehoshaphat recognized that he cannot win on his own, and so his eyes were upon the Lord.

As the people joined with their king in humbling themselves before God, and asking Him for help, the Spirit of the Lord came upon Jahaziel, a Levite of the sons of Asaph, and he spoke words of hope and encouragement to Jehoshaphat and all Judah. Jahaziel reminds Israel that it is God’s battle, and tells them that they will not have to fight; God has already gotten them the victory. The battle plan is simple: Go into battle with praise and worship, and see the salvation that the Lord will bring. Early in the morning, they rose and went into the wilderness of Tekoa, the singers going before the army, lifting their voices in praise to God for the promise of victory. It seems like a foolish military plan – sending the choir ahead of the army in battle – but God uses it to bring about a great victory. When Jehoshaphat’s army enters singing God’s praises, the enemy, confused by the people’s spirit of praise in the midst of difficulty, ends up killing one another. On the fourth day thereafter, Jehoshaphat’s army returned to Jerusalem, laden with the spoil of their enemies, singing praises for the victory won.

In desperate situations, we have no cause for despair. God can win our victories against all human odds. Just like Israel, we often find ourselves surrounded by the enemy. When the enemy comes against us, when we are hard-pressed on every side, it is important for us to lean on the Almighty God. God will never forsake us, so long as we seek after Him sincerely. He will prove to be our present help in every emergency.

Dear friend, is there something in your life that you just cannot put right on your own? Have you battles to fight? Have you burdens to bear? Have you fears concerning what tomorrow holds for you? Why not turn your eyes upon Jesus? Why not surrender all to Jesus? Let Him fight your battles; let Him carry out His plan for your life! Amen!