

Expectancy - "Our Eyes Are On You"

Man has always been evil but never before possessed such power to destroy those they hate.

- Our nation's relationship to Israel is significant in determining God's blessing. Gen. 12:3

Jesus prepared His disciples for difficult challenges they were about to face. John 13:21-38

- After rocking His disciples' worlds, Jesus points them to a certain hope. John 14:1-3
- We should intentionally plan for the difficult times that lie ahead. 2 Timothy 3:1-5 (NS-1)

The King Jehoshaphat Plan

King Jehoshaphat rallied all of Judah to fast and seek the LORD's help. 2 Chronicles 20:3-11

Stepping Stones: Prayerfully consider fasting as a way to sincerely seek God. (NS-2)

The king's prayer revealed his big view of God and a heart that was desperate for Him.

- (1.) God is powerful and sovereign. v. 6 (2.) God is our Deliverer and a Covenant Keeper. v. 7
(3.) God is worthy of our worship and trust. v. 8,9 (4.) God is our only hope. v. 10,11

Stepping Stones: When tested by the enemy, tell him - "No, you can't have this." (NS-3)

Jehoshaphat's prayer is one of the most touching expressions of trust ever. *"we are powerless before this great multitude...nor do we know what to do, but our eyes are on You."* 2 Chron. 20:12

- When the disease is too great - Our knees are buckled - We've run out of options.

Stepping Stones: (1.) Stop running to your idols for relief. (2.) Rebuke the enemy - Claim victory in Jesus. (3.) Lead your family/friends to focus their eyes on Jesus. 20:13 (NS-4)

God delivers a message of comforting hope & accomplishes a mighty victory. 2 Chron. 20:14-29

- The king led his people to *"trust in the LORD"* - Not in their earthly resources. 20:20
- What an amazing turn of events - Victory not disaster! - A three-day treasure hunt 20:25

Stepping Stones: Let's seek God right now for: Our families - Our church - Our nation.

Next Steps -

1. How do today's headlines effect your level of fear/anxiety? What are your concerns for those you love? How are you preparing them (and yourself) for our changing world?
2. Study these verses that pertain to fasting: (Ezra 8:21-23; Nehemiah 1:1-11; Esther 4:15-17; Daniel 9:1-5; Joel 1:14; Jonah 3:1-9; Matt. 6:16-18; 9:14-15; 17:18-21; Acts 13:1-4) Prayerfully consider situations God may be calling you to fast for. (personal items, family, church, nation...)
3. Are there areas in your life that the enemy has claimed for his own? Read: Romans 6:1-14; 8:9-17. Tell the enemy that he has no right to your life - Jesus has won the victory.
4. Prayerfully identify: (1.) The idols you run to for relief that only God can provide. (2.) The areas of your life Satan has tried to reclaim. Confess sin & declare by faith the victory Jesus has provided. (3.) The ways you can lead your family to fix their eyes on Jesus.

"O our God... our eyes are on You."

2 Chronicles 20:12