

This Also and Other Beside - Brian Baer

“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 Chronicles 20:1

“Will I ever get my head above water?” “I cannot take anymore!” Have you made these statements? I believe at some point in our lives, these words have come from our lips. The Bible declares that our enemy is Satan (I Peter 5:8). His job is to steal, kill and destroy. When you seemingly have everything under control, he sends the “this also” and “other beside.” The children of Judah were facing this same situation. Let us look at how Jehoshaphat and Judah conquered the enemy:

I. Declared a Fast (Verse 3)

The king realized that in order to have a chance at the enemy it was going to take sacrifice. It is no wonder why we don't see revival - no sacrifice! Before you fast ask yourself these questions:

A. *How long should I fast?* - Until you get a *revelation*, not a *manifestation*.

B. *What am I fasting for?* - Specific needs.

C. *Why am I fasting?* - To get an answer from God. Not to make a public display.

D. *What does fasting do?* Isaiah 58: 6 & 8 states *“Is not this the fast that I have chosen? to loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, and that ye break every yoke? Then shall thy light break forth as the morning, and thine health shall spring forth speedily: and thy righteousness shall go before thee; the glory of the LORD shall be thy reward.”*

1. Spiritually Aware - When you fast you are showing God you are determined.

2. Supernatural Anointing - Power to overcome satan's strongholds.

3. Solutions Accelerated - Health shall spring forth speedily.

II. Demanded a Promise from God (Verses 4-11) - They reminded God of what His word said. Isaiah 43:26 *“Put me in remembrance: let us plead together: declare thou, that thou mayest be justified.”* He wants us to remind Him what He has promised us. Not because He forgot, but so that we can make a demand on His promise. But there is a disclaimer to demanding a promise. *Example: Do not ask God for a financial miracle if you do not pay your tithes.*

III. Depended on God (Verse 12) - When they did not know what to do they put their eyes upon God. The more I am dependant on Him the more I desire Him. Matthew 5:6 states, *“Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.”*

Hunger comes from: (1) Desire to eat (2) Past satisfaction (3) Increased Activity

IV. Deepened their Unity (Verse 13) - They united the family.

V. Discerned the Prophet (Verse 15) - They listened to Jahaziel, the Levite. Here lies another reason to faithfully go to church. Your answer may come from the preacher, Sunday School teacher, etc.

VI. Defense came from God (Verse 17) - They realized they were not fighting this battle alone. These were the same words that were spoken before the children of Israel passed through the Red Sea. (*Exodus 14:13*)

VII. Demonstrated before Manifestation (18-19) - Praising God will: **1.** Shake off Heaviness (*Isaiah 61*)
2. Sudden Manifestations (*Acts 16:25*) **3.** Silence the Enemy (*Psalms 8:2*)