

Hold the Position

July 7, 2013

But did the clouds rain fire, and the earth open beneath me, I would not stir; for I know who planted me here, and as long as He wills me to stand, neither men nor devils can move me hence.

William Wallace

You will not need to fight in this battle. **Position yourselves, stand still** and see the salvation of the LORD, who is with you, O Judah and Jerusalem! Do not fear or be dismayed; tomorrow go out against them, for the LORD is with you.

2 Chronicles 20:17

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2 Chronicles 20:17 ESV

Establishing Position

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 . . . And Jehoshaphat

feared, and set himself to seek the LORD, and proclaimed a fast throughout all Judah. And Judah gathered themselves together, to ask help of the LORD: even out of all the cities of Judah they came to seek the LORD. And Jehoshaphat stood in the congregation of Judah and Jerusalem, in the house of the LORD, before the new court, And said, O LORD God of our fathers, art not thou God in heaven? and rule not thou over all the kingdoms of the heathen? and in thine hand is there not power and might, so that none is able to withstand thee? Art not thou our God, who did drive out the inhabitants of this land before thy people Israel, and gave it to the seed of Abraham thy friend for ever? And they dwelt therein, and have built thee a sanctuary therein for thy name, saying, **If, when evil comes upon us**, as the sword, judgment, or pestilence, or famine, **we stand before this house, and in thy presence, (for thy name is in this house,) and cry unto thee in our affliction, then thou wilt hear and help . . . O our God, wilt thou not judge them? for we have no might against this great company that cometh against us; neither know we what to do: but our eyes are upon thee.** And all Judah stood before the LORD, with their little ones, their wives, and their children. Then upon Jahaziel . . . a Levite of the sons of Asaph, came the Spirit of the LORD in the midst of the congregation; 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 . . . 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.** And Jehoshaphat bowed his

head with his face to the ground: and all Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem fell before the LORD, worshipping the LORD.

2 Chronicles 20:1, 3-9, 12-15, 17-18

Reckoning the Victory

The Singing Starts Before the Fight

And Jehoshaphat bowed his head with his face to the ground: and all Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem fell before the LORD, worshipping the LORD. And the Levites, of the children of the Kohathites, and of the children of the Korhites, stood up to praise the LORD God of Israel with a loud voice on high. And they rose early in the morning, and went forth into the wilderness of Tekoa: and as they went forth, Jehoshaphat stood and said, Hear me, O Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem; **Believe in the LORD your God, so shall ye be established; believe his prophets, so shall ye prosper.** And when he had consulted with the people, he appointed singers unto the LORD, and that should praise the beauty of holiness, as they went out before the army, and to say, Praise the LORD; for his mercy endures for ever. And when they began to sing and to praise, the LORD set ambushments against the children of Ammon, Moab, and mount Seir, which were come against Judah; and they were smitten.

2 Chronicles 20:18-22

The Bait to Flee

Run, Flee, Get out, It's not worth the fight!

I came to the house of Shemaiah . . . a secret informer; and he said, Let us meet together in the house of God, within the temple, and let us close the doors of the temple, for they are coming to kill you; indeed, at night they will come to kill you. And I said, **Should such a man as I**

flee? . . . For this reason he was hired, that I should be afraid and act that way and sin, so that they might have cause for an evil report, that they might reproach me.

Nehemiah 6:9-13

Stayed and Ready

Men that Did Not Flee

Eleazar . . . (when) the men of Israel were gone away: He arose, and smote the Philistines . . . and the LORD wrought a great victory that day.

Shammah . . . (when) the people fled from the Philistines . . . he stood in the midst of the ground, and defended it, and slew the Philistines: and the LORD wrought a great victory.

2 Samuel 23:9-12

No Armor for the Back

Calm and Confident in the Day

For the LORD shall be thy confidence, and shall keep thy foot from being taken . . . In the fear of the LORD is strong confidence: and his children shall have a place of refuge . . . in quietness and in confidence shall be your strength . . .

Proverbs 3:26, 14:26; Isaiah 30:15

Prepared for the Day

Order (Prepare, Establish, Fix in Advance) my steps in thy word: and let not any iniquity have dominion over me.

Stay in Position

Hold your ground! Should a Christian flee? Should a Christian be afraid? You are not going anywhere - Hold fast your position! You are not changing the things that God has set. You heed God's lead, not the Enemy's! The Enemy will not define the terms of your life. The Enemy will not dictate where you go, what you say, what you don't say, or what you do, or don't do. God set you here. Stand firm. Don't move from this position. Be still and watch what your God will do for those who trust in His Almighty Name!

Tensile Strength

How much stress, difficulty, and hardship the human soul can handle before giving way and breaking

Resilience

How long the human soul takes to return to its former size and shape after enduring acute stress, difficulty, and hardship

Tensile Strength + Resilience = Patience (The Ability to Stay in Position)

So, How Do We Get Patience?

And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience . . .

Romans 5:3

My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.

James 1:2-4

The Growth of a Soul

The Increase of Tensile Strength and Resilience

- Months to recover position
- Weeks to recover position
- Days to recover position
- Hours to recover position
- Minutes to recover position
- Seconds to recover position
- Nothing can remove me from my position

The Motto for Crisis

God is in Control. Be Still - Stay in Position. The Enemy will not define my thoughts, my actions, or my behavior. Watch what my God will do!

The Code for Crisis

12 Musts for the Hour of Trial

1. **Reckon Yourself in Christ** - You are Secure.
2. **Get the Grace Needed** - You have Grace for Help in Time of Need.
3. **Maintain Priority Throughout** - Don't alter your God-assigned priorities.
4. **Rouse Your Soul to Rejoice** - Cherish this opportunity to get more patience.
5. **Offer Thanksgiving, Sing Praises** - for the victory is the Lord's. He will prove the Champion every time.
6. **Garrison the Mind** - Check EVERY thought at the door. Frisk every thought to see if they have even a trace of anxiety or fear on them. None of this can be allowed in.
7. **Garrison the Tongue** - When under siege, the soul is sensitized and softer than usual. Over-statements and flesh-statements mustn't fly. The tongue is owned by the Spirit of God, and in a time of crisis must make a firm resolve to remain the vessel of Spirit Truth.

8. **Be bold to do the Difficult Things.** Don't avoid the difficult solution - Do what needs to be done without hesitation. Sometimes life and death is defined by doing what must be done in the moment, even if it is the most difficult thing you have ever done.
9. **Enter the Searchlight.** Be slow to expose the faults of others, be quick to expose your own personal faults. Take claim to whatever your responsibility might be in the situation. Allow the searchlight of the Spirit to start with you. If you are wrong in any matter, then repent, confess, and make things right quickly.
10. **Choose Weakness.** Accept a weakened posture and a humble approach. Wield Love as your battle-ax. Wield Gentleness as your weaponry. Fast and increase prayer. Consider how you may bless those attacking, those opposing. In weakness there is spiritual power.
11. **Get in the Shoes of Everyone Else.** Seek to be presidential. Seek to bring order and peace to the ruffled souls around you.
12. **Save the Big Life Decisions for Later.** If possible, wait for circumstances to calm before making large-scale life-directing decisions.

Eyes to See

Living with Reality in View

Therefore he (the King of Syria) sent horses and chariots and a great army there, and they came by night and surrounded the city. And when the servant of the man of God arose early and went out, there was an army, surrounding the city with horses and chariots. And his servant said to him, "Alas, my master! What shall we do?" So he answered, "Do not fear, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them." And Elisha prayed, and said, "LORD, I pray, open his eyes that he may see." Then the LORD opened the eyes of the young man, and he saw. And behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha.

2 Kings 6:14-17

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