



Before the THRONE

The Devotional

Volume 1

Books of the Law & History

2 Chronicles 20:22

“And when they began to sing and to praise the LORD, He set an ambush against the children of Ammon, Moab and Mount Seir, who had come against Judah and they were smitten *and defeated*.” 2 Chronicles 20:22

“And they were smitten!” What enemies have set themselves against you – what thoughts, worries, fears, lack, poverty, sickness, or disease – or what about shame, condemnation, failure, broken relationships, or a broken and grieving heart? Have these enemies “smitten” you? Or is the real question, have you begun to sing and praise the LORD in spite of your present circumstances?

Praising the Lord is not a panacea. Singing a few songs is never a magic cure-all that will instantly right the wrongs of life. But, praise is always right! And praise is always, always, ‘fitting the upright.’ (Psalm 33:1; 147:1) Words of unbelief or complaint don’t fit you as a Christian. As an ill fitting garment makes your appearance far less appealing than if it had been tailor made for you, so any other words other than praise; especially in the sight of your enemies, is not befitting of you or of your faith in Jesus Christ.

Praise that has any motivation other than sincere thanks and gratitude is really only just so many words of manipulation, contrivance, or hypocrisy. Never mimic. Never “try praise.” Rather, meditate upon the Cross of Calvary and the unimaginable burden the Saviour carried there because of His infinite love for you, and soon there will arise a new song of praise untainted by impure motives – adorned with faith to overcome any odds!

Alleluia!