

## THE LORD OF BREAK THROUGH

1 Chronicles 14:9-17 (Amplified), ***“Now the Philistines had come and made a raid in the Valley of Rephaim. David asked God, Shall I go up against the Philistines? And will You deliver them into my hand? And the Lord said, Go up, and I will deliver them into your hand. So [Israel] came up to Baal-perazim, and David defeated [the Philistines] there. Then David said, God has broken my enemies by my hand, like the bursting forth of waters. Therefore they called the name of that place Baal-perazim [Lord of breaking through]. [The Philistines] left their gods there; David commanded and they were burned. And the Philistines again made a raid in the valley. And David inquired again of God, and God said to him, Do not go up after them; turn away from them and come [around] upon them over opposite the mulberry trees. And when you hear a sound of marching in the tops of the mulberry or balsam trees, then go out to battle, for God has gone out before you to smite the Philistine host. So David did as God commanded him, and they drove back the army of the Philistines from Gibeon as far as Gezer. And the fame of David went out into all the lands and they feared him.”***

Some very interesting principles are brought out in this passage of scripture. The first being that David never confronted his enemy or went into battle without first asking God what he should do... Verse 10; ***And David inquired of God, saying, “Shall I go up against the Philistines? Will You deliver them into my hand?”*** Verse 14; ***“Therefore David inquired again of God.”*** The other thing to note is that God gave David different instructions and strategy on each occasion. Verse 10; ***The Lord said to him, “Go up, for I will deliver them into your hand.”*** Verse 14; God said to him, ***“You shall not go up after them; circle around them, and come upon them in front of the mulberry trees.”***

Too many of us assume that because we won a battle using certain tactics that we should use the same strategy again and again. And not many of us even bother to ask God first, before confronting the enemy, what He wants us to do. But David only did as God commanded and that is why he secured the victory every time. If you are in a battle right now, ask God whether He wants you to take on the fight at this present time. If He does, then get reassurance from Him that He will definitely grant you the victory. This way you can be sure that God has gone out before you and prepared everything for triumph.

What stands out more than anything in this amazing story of conquest and victory is David's description of God. He said, **"God has broken through my enemies by my hand like a breakthrough of water"** (verse 11 - NKJ). He likened God's power to a river bursting its banks, a raging flood, or a dam break. Therefore, they called that place **"Lord of Break Through."** Note, in Hebrew culture God's name was too holy to be spoken or written, so they had to refer to Him by the way He conducted Himself or by what He did (i.e. His intrinsic character). Hence; *The Most High, The One Who Sees Me, All Merciful One, The One Who Heals, The One Who Provides, etc.* But here, God is **"The Lord of Break Through."** I'm sure this aspect of God's divine nature is something we should all learn to appreciate (and hold on to). There were crucial times in my life when I needed a "break through" and didn't know how this was going to happen. That was when I called on the Master of the break through!

Note, this battle with the Philistines comes at a critical time for David and marks the moment which Jerusalem became a royal city. David had started his work of king at the age of 30 (the age when Christ was baptised, and the age of a priest), and had already reigned over Judah seven years and six months from Hebron.

But this 'break through' marks the beginning of his reign at Jerusalem; where he reigned over all Israel and Judah thirty-three years. David's move to Jerusalem brought the Philistines against the city, and it was his petition to God which gave him the confidence to fight and win. 2 Samuel 5:19-20, ***So David enquired of the Lord saying, "Shall I go up against the Philistines? Will you deliver them into my hand?" and the Lord said to David, "Go up, for I will certainly deliver the Philistines into you hand. So David came to Baal-perazim, and David defeated them there. And he said, "The Lord has burst through my enemies before me like a bursting flood." Therefore the name of that place is called Baal-perazim.*** Here it says that God broke through like a "bursting flood." Another translation says, "***Like a raging flood.***"

Isaiah 8:7 says, ***"Therefore, the Lord will overwhelm them with a mighty flood."*** Nahum 1:8, ***"The Lord is good, a stronghold in the day of trouble; and He knows those who trust in Him. With an overwhelming flood He will make an utter end of its place, and darkness will pursue His enemies."*** Have you ever seen a river bursting it's banks and causing a flood to occur? It is extremely powerful! Well, that is exactly what God does when you need a breakthrough in your life. A torrent of His mighty power is unleashed to defeat anything or anyone that is opposing you - anything that's in the way of His blessings! Nothing can resist the awesome Master of the breakthrough! The Master Breaker! The Master of the Flood!

In 2 Chronicles 20, a great multitude came against God's people. So king Jehoshaphat and his people set their hearts to seek the Lord and to fast. The king cried out to God a prayer that most of us have prayed at times in our spiritual journey: ***"We have no might against these that come against us, neither do we know what to do; but our eyes are upon You"*** (verse 12). Then ...

***The Spirit of the Lord came in the midst of the congregation ... saying, “Be not afraid nor dismayed ... for the battle is not yours, but God’s”*** (verses 14-15). God undertakes to win our battles for us and He does that by bursting forth in power and might! You can end your battle quickly by simply quitting and giving in to your fears and doubts. The enemy (satan) will not bother those who give up their confidence in the Lord. Or, you can continue to wait patiently for your breakthrough!

Yes, the battle is the Lord’s, but we have a part to play, and that is, to trust and believe His promises in the face of hopelessness and what seems to be impossible. Faith demands that we turn over all my problems – all our critical situations, all our fears, all our anxieties – into the hand of the Lord. When we have done all we can, and we know our battle is beyond human abilities, we must submit all into His capable hands and expect a break through ***“like a raging flood.”*** If you will hold fast to your faith – trusting Him, resting in His promises, rejecting all the lies of the devil that come into your mind – then expect God to burst into your situation like a raging flood and bring an expected end to your particular battle. Live in anticipation of a break through! He will move heaven and earth to deliver you and make a way for total victory. The way out is to trust, trust, trust! ***“God makes wars to cease”*** (Psalm 46:9).

In what areas of your life are you wanting God to “break through”? God is the Master Breaker and He will bring breakthrough into your life - all you need to do is ask Him! God is true to His word, so He will break through in any situation, no matter what you are going through. Speak to God and ask Him for a breakthrough. Proclaim Him to be Baal-Perazim in your particular situation. Even when the odds are stacked against you (as they were with David) He is the Lord who breaks through - He is The Master Breaker. Nothing can resist His power and might!