

The Bulwark

AUGUST 14, 2022

PERILOUS UNDERTAKING

Perched precariously on a wire that was only five inches in diameter, Nik Wallenda steadied himself. The roar of Niagara Falls drown out any other sounds, save it be the voice deep inside him. It was June 15, 2012 and millions of people sat fixated watching on television, as he took his first step on to the wire spanning above the falls and spanning some 1,800 feet across the falls. There was no doubt as to the real danger of both the height above, far the rushing, crushing waters below. He took all the precautions he could for the perilous journey set before him, and as he stated later, that he “prayed a lot” and “praised God” when the journey was completed.



come upon him, Jehoshaphat made certain to follow the commands of God precisely, *“Put your trust in the Lord your God, and you will be established. Put your trust in His prophets and you will succeed.”* The singers who were selected, went out before the army and sang, *“Praise the Lord, for His mercy endures forever.”*

“For whatever was written in earlier times was written for our instruction, that through perseverance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.” (Romans 15:4)

Life, in an of itself is a perilous undertaking. Yet, even as seen in those in the days of Jehoshaphat, putting full trust in God can lead to surmounting challenges that will be faced. Praise God, especially during times that are difficult. What most people do when life presses hard is to retreat inside of self. Embracing an attitude of fear and defeat. But if we could only adjust our thinking and follow the example seen in 2Chronicles 20 and take away a powerful lesson. *“...thus says the Lord to you, ‘Do not fear or be dismayed because of this great multitude, for the battle is not yours but God’s.’”* (v.15) We may think what we are facing is insurmountable, but as long as we are with God, we can with confidence move ever forward.

Thinking back to Nik Wallenda and his tight wire walk over Niagara Falls, it was of paramount importance for him to maintain balance. In order to help in this regard, he kept his vision focused ever forward. So it is with us in our daily walk through life. The author of Hebrews points out in chapter twelve and verse three, *“fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith...”*

The apostle Peter reminds us that when life presses, as it will do, *“casting all your anxieties upon Him, because He cares for you.”* (1Peter 5:7) Paul on his part noted in Romans chapter eight, verse eleven *“What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who is against us?”* (wbe)

In the book of 2Chronicles, chapter twenty, the Israelites were in a perilous situation. *“Then some came and reported to Jehoshaphat, saying, ‘A great multitude is coming against you from beyond the sea, out of Syria and behold, they are in Hazazon-tamar (that is En-gedi). And Jehoshaphat was afraid and turned his attention to seek the Lord; and proclaimed a fast throughout all Judah.’”* (vs. 2-3) Without hesitation, King Jehoshaphat, in abject humility went in prayer to God (see verses 6-12) asking for help.

Getting reassurance from Jahaziel, whom the Spirit of the Lord had

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