

**DESPERATE TIMES: THE ALLIANCE**

2 Kings 3

8.27.23

**Desperate times show what it is that we can't live without**

*Three different postures before God:*

WHERE WE OFTEN ARE

**#1 LIVING FOR OURSELVES DESPITE THE GRACE OF GOD: THE DISASTER OF BEING *HEEDLESS* (1-9)**

*Three default mindsets keep us from heeding God:*

**#1 The Pragmatist: “Whatever Works”**

The Disappointing Pragmatist: Jehoram, son of Ahab, king of Israel (1-3)

**#2 The Opportunist: “Whatever I Can Get Away With”**

The Dogged Opportunist: Mehsa, king of Moab (4-6)

**#3 The Loyalist: “Whatever Makes You Happy”**

The Diplomatic Loyalist: Jehoshaphat, king of Judah (7-9)

WHERE WE DON'T LIKE TO BE

**#2 LIVING MOMENT BY MOMENT DEPENDENT ON THE GRACE OF GOD: THE WONDER OF BEING HELPLESS (8-19)**

*Two stark realities exposed by desperate times*

**#1 How Much We Need God**

A Pathetic Crisis (9)

**#2 How Much We Trust God**

A Dramatic Contrast (10-19) & An Epic Rescue (20-25)

WHERE WE NEVER SHOULD GO

**#3 LIVING ON THE EDGE IN DEFIANCE OF THE GRACE OF GOD: THE HORROR OF BEING HOPELESS (20-27)**

*Three horrible realities of the hopeless:*

**#1 There's no escape from God's judgment (25-26)**

A Frantic Fight (25-26)

**#2 That doesn't mean people won't try (27a)**

A Horrific Sight (27a)

**#3 Many will mistake a respite from judgment for rescue (27b)**

A Problematic Respite (27b)