

Judith

Chapter 1

When Nebuchadnezzar was king of the Assyrians, he fought a war with King Arphaxad and his supporting nations.

Nebuchadnezzar sent a message to the nations near Assyria to help him fight Arphaxad.

But the peoples of those places ignored Nebuchadnezzar. They thought victory was beyond him. But Nebuchadnezzar was in fact victorious and after his victory he set out to punish the nations which had refused his call for help.

Dear God, please help all nations
to live in peace with each other

Chapters 2 – 4

Nebuchadnezzar summoned his top general Holofernes and gave him a huge army to punish the nations that had not joined him for the war against Arphaxad.

Nation after nation, people after people, fell to the sword of Holofernes.

Some places made peace with Holofernes by giving him all their possessions and then becoming slaves of Nebuchadnezzar, worshipping Nebuchadnezzar as a god.

As the army of Holofernes approached Israel, the Israelites fasted and prayed to God for help. They also blocked the mountain passes to delay Holofernes' advance.

Dear God, please help nations
which have been invaded by other nations