

Kings and Queens

King Asa

2 Chronicles 14:1-6

¹ And Abijah rested with his ancestors and was buried in the City of David. Asa his son succeeded him as king, and in his days the country was at peace for ten years.

² Asa did what was good and right in the eyes of the LORD his God. ³ He removed the foreign altars and the high places, smashed the sacred stones and cut down the Asherah poles. ⁴ He commanded Judah to seek the LORD, the God of their ancestors, and to obey his laws and commands. ⁵ He removed the high places and incense altars in every town in Judah, and the kingdom was at peace under him. ⁶ He built up the fortified cities of Judah, since the land was at peace. No one was at war with him during those years, for the LORD gave him rest.

Ah-Bi-Jah

2 Chronicles 14:2-6 is a brief summary of his reign.

Bottom line is he did good in the eyes of the Lord.

He lead the people back to God and was blessed as a result.

He had to overcome challenges to get there but kept building on his success and desire to please the Lord.

In the end he was honored, and favored by the Lord because of his obedience.

Explain Asa in general

- I. **I will make it my number one priority to fully trust in the LORD.**
Trust in the LORD.

2 Chronicles 14:7

“Let us build up these towns,” he said to Judah, “and put walls around them, with towers, gates and bars. The land is still ours, because we have sought the LORD our God; we sought him and he has given us rest on every side.” So they built and prospered.

- A. I will trust God to build.
 1. Discuss the idea of building here.
 2. What is at stake
 3. What is the point
 4. What is God saying.

2 Chronicles 14:11

¹¹ Then Asa called to the LORD his God and said, “LORD, there is no one like you to help the powerless against the mighty. Help us, LORD our God, for we rely on you, and in your name we have come against this vast army. LORD, you are our God; do not let mere mortals prevail against you.”

- B. I will trust God to battle.
1. Discuss the idea of battle and war here.
 2. What is at stake.
 3. What is the point.
 4. What is God saying.

- II. **I will allow the Word of God to make be courageous.**
Be courageous.

2 Chronicles 15:8a

When Asa heard these words and the prophecy of Azariah son of Oded the prophet, he took courage....

- A. What did he tell him?

2 Chronicle 15:1-8

¹ The Spirit of God came on Azariah son of Oded. ² He went out to meet Asa and said to him, “Listen to me, Asa and all Judah and Benjamin. The LORD is with you when you are with him. If you seek him, he will be found by you, but if you forsake him, he will forsake you. ³ For a long time Israel was without the true God, without a priest to teach and without the law. ⁴ But in their distress they turned to the LORD, the God of Israel, and sought him, and he was found by them. ⁵ In those days it was not safe to travel about, for all the inhabitants of the lands were in great turmoil. ⁶ One nation was being crushed by another and one city by another, because God was troubling them with every kind of distress. ⁷ But as for you, be strong and do not give up, for your work will be rewarded.”

⁸ When Asa heard these words and the prophecy of Azariah son of Oded the prophet, he took courage....

- B. Courage to **remove** and **rebuild**.

God gives courage to remove and rebuild

2 Chronicles 15:8b

He removed the detestable idols from the whole land of Judah and Benjamin and from the towns he had captured in the hills of Ephraim. He repaired the altar of the LORD that was in front of the portico of the LORD's temple.

C. Unpack

1. Removed the idols from the whole land of Judah and Benjamin.
 - a. This was his territory.
 - b. This was the southern kingdom that he was over.
 - c. This was the borders he was in charge of.

Illustration

What about you.

What are your borders.

Know your territory.

Know the territory God has given you.

Lead that territory as a King or Queen would

Joshua 1:3-4

³I will give you every place where you set your foot, as I promised Moses. ⁴Your territory will extend from the desert to Lebanon, and from the great river, the Euphrates—all the Hittite country—to the Mediterranean Sea in the west.

⁵No one will be able to stand against you all the days of your life. As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will never leave you nor forsake you. ⁶Be strong and courageous, because you will lead these people to inherit the land I swore to their ancestors to give them.

Application

1. Family
2. School
3. Church
4. Neighborhood
5. Restaurant
6. YMCA
7. Recreation
8. Work place

You are on assignment.

Courage is contagious.

1. Asa's courage was contagious.

¹² They entered into a covenant to seek the LORD, the God of their ancestors, with all their heart and soul. ¹³ All who would not seek the LORD, the God of Israel, were to be put to death, whether small or great, man or woman. ¹⁴ They took an oath to the LORD with loud acclamation, with shouting and with trumpets and horns. ¹⁵ All Judah rejoiced about the oath because they had sworn it wholeheartedly. They sought God eagerly, and he was found by them. So the LORD gave them rest on every side.

D. Courage to deal with family strongholds.

¹⁶ King Asa also deposed his grandmother Maakah from her position as queen mother, because she had made a repulsive image for the worship of Asherah. Asa cut it down, broke it up and burned it in the Kidron Valley.

¹⁷ Although he did not remove the high places from Israel, Asa's heart was fully committed to the LORD all his life. ¹⁸ He brought into the temple of God the silver and gold and the articles that he and his father had dedicated.

¹⁹ There was no more war until the thirty-fifth year of Asa's reign.

Spiritual warfare brings peace.

III. I will not take the LORD for granted.

2 Chronicles 16:7-9

⁷ At that time Hanani the seer came to Asa king of Judah and said to him: "Because you relied on the king of Aram and not on the LORD your God, the army of the king of Aram has escaped from your hand. ⁸ Were not the Cushites and Libyans a mighty army with great numbers of chariots and horsemen? Yet when you relied on the LORD, he delivered them into your hand. ⁹ For the eyes of the LORD range throughout the earth to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him. You have done a foolish thing, and from now on you will be at war.

