

# Divided Kingdom

---

Lesson 16 – The Reign of Asa

2<sup>nd</sup> Chronicles 14-16

1<sup>st</sup> Kings 15:9-24

## Lesson 16 The Reign of Asa

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Chronicles 14-16, 1<sup>st</sup> Kings 15:9-24

#### Asa – A good king

2Chr. 14:1(b) Then Asa his son reigned in his place. In his days the land was quiet for ten years.

2 Asa did what was good and right in the eyes of the LORD his God,

3 for he removed the altars of the foreign gods and the high places, and broke down the sacred pillars and cut down the wooden images.

4 He commanded Judah to seek the LORD God of their fathers, and to observe the law and the commandment.

5 He also removed the high places and the incense altars from all the cities of Judah, and the kingdom was quiet under him. (NKJV)

## Lesson 16 The Reign of Asa

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Chronicles 14-16, 1<sup>st</sup> Kings 15:9-24

#### Wicked influences purged from the land

1Ki 15:12 He also put away the male cult prostitutes from the land and removed all the idols which his fathers had made. (NASV)

1Ki 15:13 Also he removed Maachah his grandmother from being queen mother, because she had made an obscene image of Asherah. And Asa cut down her obscene image and burned it by the Brook Kidron.

14 But the high places were not removed. Nevertheless Asa's heart was loyal to the LORD all his days. (NKJV)

## Lesson 16 The Reign of Asa

2<sup>nd</sup> Chronicles 14-16, 1<sup>st</sup> Kings 15:9-24

### The gods of man versus the God of man

- These gods originated in the minds of men
- Man could not conceive of God
  - Holy and just – will not tolerate wickedness
  - Yet compassionate & loves beyond comprehension

### Who recorded these things?

- The Jews, right?
  - “History is written by the victors.”
  - Rehoboam, Abijah, Asa, Jehoshaphat?

## Lesson 16 The Reign of Asa

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Chronicles 14-16, 1<sup>st</sup> Kings 15:9-24

#### Recognized God as the source of blessings

2Ch 14:6 And he built fortified cities in Judah, for the land had rest; he had no war in those years, because the LORD had given him rest.

7 Therefore he said to Judah, "Let us build these cities and make walls around them, and towers, gates, and bars, while the land is yet before us, because we have sought the LORD our God; we have sought Him, and He has given us rest on every side." So they built and prospered. (NKJV)

7(b) "The land is still ours because we have sought the LORD our God; we have sought Him, and He has given us rest on every side." (NASV)

## Lesson 16 The Reign of Asa

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Chronicles 14-16, 1<sup>st</sup> Kings 15:9-24

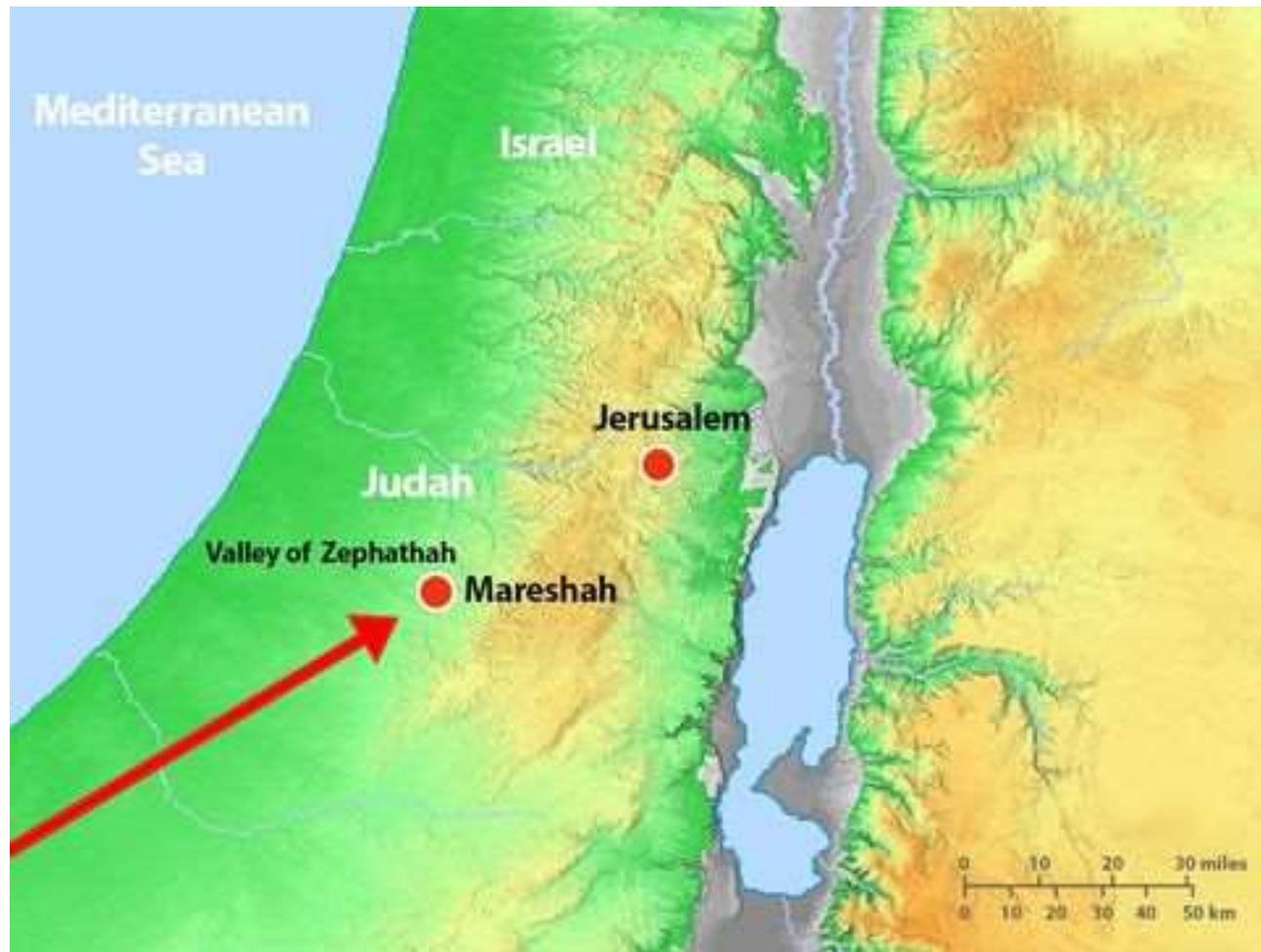
#### Asa appeals to God for help

2Ch 14:9 Then Zerah the Ethiopian came out against them with an army of a million men and three hundred chariots, and he came to Mareshah.

10 So Asa went out against him, and they set the troops in battle array in the Valley of Zephathah at Mareshah.

11 And Asa cried out to the LORD his God, and said, "LORD, it is nothing for You to help, whether with many or with those who have no power; help us, O LORD our God, for we rest on You, and in Your name we go against this multitude. O LORD, You are our God; do not let man prevail against You!" (NKJV)







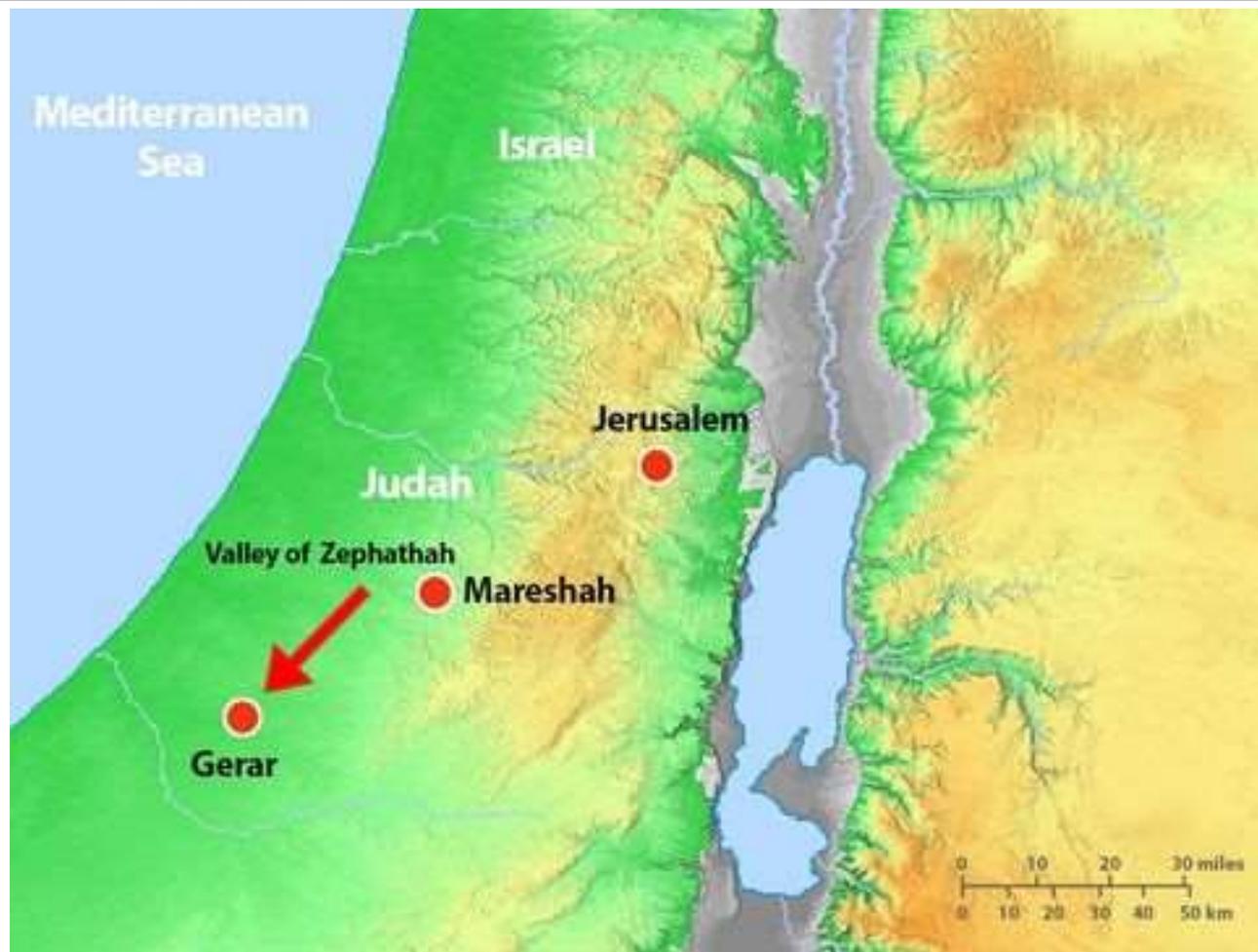
## Lesson 16 The Reign of Asa

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Chronicles 14-16, 1<sup>st</sup> Kings 15:9-24

#### God provides deliverance

2Ch 14:12 So the LORD struck the Ethiopians before Asa and Judah, and the Ethiopians fled. 13 And Asa and the people who were with him pursued them to Gerar. So the Ethiopians were overthrown, and they could not recover, for they were broken before the LORD and His army. And they carried away very much spoil. 14 Then they defeated all the cities around Gerar, for the fear of the LORD came upon them; and they plundered all the cities, for there was exceedingly much spoil in them.

15 They also attacked the livestock enclosures, and carried off sheep and camels in abundance, and returned to Jerusalem.(NKJV)



## Lesson 16 The Reign of Asa

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Chronicles 14-16, 1<sup>st</sup> Kings 15:9-24

#### God had promised deliverance

Le 26:7 You will chase your enemies, and they shall fall by the sword before you.

8 Five of you shall chase a hundred, and a hundred of you shall put ten thousand to flight; your enemies shall fall by the sword before you. (NKJV)

## Lesson 16 The Reign of Asa

2<sup>nd</sup> Chronicles 14-16, 1<sup>st</sup> Kings 15:9-24

### A foundational truth

2Ch 15:1 Now the Spirit of God came upon Azariah the son of Oded.

2 And he went out to meet Asa, and said to him: “Hear me, Asa, and all Judah and Benjamin. The LORD is with you while you are with Him. If you seek Him, He will be found by you; but if you forsake Him, He will forsake you.” (NKJV)

2Ch 15:4 "but when in their trouble they turned to the LORD God of Israel, and sought Him, He was found by them.

7 "But you, be strong and do not let your hands be weak, for your work shall be rewarded!"

## Lesson 16 The Reign of Asa

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Chronicles 14-16, 1<sup>st</sup> Kings 15:9-24

#### Many come over from Israel

2Ch 15:8 And when Asa heard these words and the prophecy of Oded the prophet, he took courage, and removed the abominable idols from all the land of Judah and Benjamin and from the cities which he had taken in the mountains of Ephraim; and he restored the altar of the LORD that was before the vestibule of the LORD.

9 Then he gathered all Judah and Benjamin, and those who dwelt with them from Ephraim, Manasseh, and Simeon, for they came over to him in great numbers from Israel when they saw that the LORD his God was with him. (NKJV)

## Lesson 16 The Reign of Asa

2<sup>nd</sup> Chronicles 14-16, 1<sup>st</sup> Kings 15:9-24

### The covenant renewed!

2Ch 15:12 Then they entered into a covenant to seek the LORD God of their fathers with all their heart and with all their soul;

13 and whoever would not seek the LORD God of Israel was to be put to death, whether small or great, whether man or woman.

15 And all Judah rejoiced at the oath, for they had sworn with all their heart and sought Him with all their soul; and He was found by them, and the LORD gave them rest all around. (NKJV)

## Lesson 16 The Reign of Asa

2<sup>nd</sup> Chronicles 14-16, 1<sup>st</sup> Kings 15:9-24

### Baasha moves to block defections to Asa

2Ch 16:1 In the thirty-sixth year of the reign of Asa, Baasha king of Israel came up against Judah and built Ramah, that he might let none go out or come in to Asa king of Judah.

2 Then Asa brought silver and gold from the treasuries of the house of the LORD and of the king's house, and sent to Ben-Hadad king of Syria, who dwelt in Damascus, saying,

3 "Let there be a treaty between you and me, as there was between my father and your father. Here, I have sent you silver and gold; come, break your treaty with Baasha king of Israel, so that he will withdraw from me."  
(NKJV)



## Lesson 16 The Reign of Asa

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Chronicles 14-16, 1<sup>st</sup> Kings 15:9-24

#### Hanani's message from God

2Ch 16:7 And at that time Hanani the seer came to Asa king of Judah, and said to him: "Because you have relied on the king of Syria, and have not relied on the LORD your God, therefore the army of the king of Syria has escaped from your hand. 8 Were the Ethiopians and the Lubim not a huge army with very many chariots and horsemen? Yet, because you relied on the LORD, He delivered them into your hand.

9 "For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show Himself strong on behalf of those whose heart is loyal to Him. In this you have done foolishly; therefore from now on you shall have wars." (NKJV)

## Lesson 16 The Reign of Asa

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Chronicles 14-16, 1<sup>st</sup> Kings 15:9-24

#### Asa's sad final years

2Ch 16:10 Then Asa was angry with the seer, and put him in prison, for he was enraged at him because of this. And Asa oppressed some of the people at that time.

12 And in the thirty-ninth year of his reign, Asa became diseased in his feet, and his malady was severe; yet in his disease he did not seek the LORD, but the physicians.

13 So Asa rested with his fathers; he died in the forty-first year of his reign. (NKJV)

# Divided Kingdom: Kings of Israel

- **Jeroboam** – 22y
  - Nadab - 2y
  - **Baasha** – 24y
  - Elah – 2y
  - **Zimri** – 1w
  - **Omri** – 12y
  - Ahab – 22y
  - Ahaziah – 2y
  - Jehoram (Joram) – 12y
  - **Jehu** – 28y
  - Jehoahaz – 17y
  - Joash (Jehoash) – 16y
  - Jeroboam II – 41y
  - Zechariah – 6m
  - **Shallum** – 1m
  - **Menahem** – 10y
  - Pekahiah – 2y
  - **Pekah** – 20y
  - **Hoshea** – 9y
-

# Divided Kingdom: Kings of Judah

- **Rehoboam** – 17y
  - Abijam (Abijah) – 3y
  - Asa – 41y
  - Jehoshaphat – 25y
  - Jehoram (Joram) – 8y
  - Ahaziah – 1y
  - **(Athaliah)** – 6y
  - Joash (Jehoash) – 40y
  - Amaziah – 29y
  - Uzziah (Azariah) – 52y
  - Jotham – 16y
  - Ahaz – 16y
  - Hezekiah – 29y
  - Manasseh – 55y
  - Amon – 2y
  - Josiah – 31y
  - Jehoahaz (Shallum) – 3m
  - Jehoiakim (Eliakim) – 11y
  - Jehoiachin (Coniah, Jeconiah)-3m
  - Zedekiah (Mattaniah) - 11y
-