PROPHETS AND KINGS (I)

DAILY READINGS:

Monday: 1 Kings 11:26-43
Tuesday: 1 Kings 12:1-24
Wednesday: 1 Kings 13:1-32
Thursday: 1 Kings 14:1-18
Friday: 2 Chronicles 14
Saturday: 2 Chronicles 15
Sunday: 2 Chronicles 16:1-14

MEMORY VERSE: 2 Chronicles 16:9

For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to shew himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him.

> 耶和華的眼目遍察全地,要顯大能幫助向他心存誠實的人。 你這事行得愚昧;此後,你必有爭戰的事。

INTRODUCTION:

For all his great wisdom, Solomon's reign ended in tragic failure. Ignoring God's command, Solomon married many "strange" wives and eventually was taken up with the worship of their strange gods. Knowledge of the truth, in and of itself, will not keep the soul from departing after evil. No matter what spiritual level or position a person attains, his *obedience to the truth is all that matters*. Even the greatest and wisest have no guarantee of triumph outside of obedience. Solomon's idolatry resulted also in tragic consequences to the kingdom.

LESSON NOTES:

Judah		Israel	
The Southern Kingdom		The Northern Kingdom	
Kings	Prophets	Kings	Prophets
King Rehoboam 羅 波 安	• Shemaiah the man of God 示瑪雅 • Iddo the seer 易多	King Jeroboam 耶羅波安	• Ahijah the prophet 亞希雅 • The man of God from Judah 神人 • Old Prophet at Bethel • Iddo the Seer 易多
King Asa 亞 撒	• Azariah the prophet (the son of Oded) 先知亞撒利雅 (俄德的兒子) • Hanani the seer 哈拿尼		

The division in the kingdom was the judgment of God upon Solomon and not the work of Jeroboam. While Solomon was still alive, Jeroboam was given a prophetic promise of his own reign (1 Kings 11:31). After the split occurred, it was declared to be in accordance with the Lord's will (12:15).

1 Kings And he (Ahijah 亞希雅) said to Jeroboam, Take thee ten pieces: for thus saith the Li)RD, the
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。耶和華-以色列的 神如此說:我必將國從所羅門手
hearkened not unto the people; for the cause was from the saying, which the LORD spake by Ahijah the Shilonite unto 耶和華,為要應驗他藉示羅人亞希雅對尼八的兒子耶羅

Jeroboam's failures were in his eagerness to force the plan of God and his later abandonment of all loyalty to the Lord. Two things contributed to Jeroboam's pride, causing him to "jump the gun." First, being an able administrator, he was advanced quickly into a position of responsibility in Solomon's kingdom (11:28). This went to his head, and he had illusions of even greater positions, coveting, no doubt, even Solomon's throne (see. v. 37). Promotions and advancements always tend to make us think more highly of ourselves than we ought. The second contributing factor was the Word of the Lord which agreed with his ambitions. However, he had also been specifically told that the kingdom would *not* be taken out of Solomon's hands until his death (v. 34). Thus his rebellion resulted in an exile in Egypt until Solomon died.

1 Kings 11:28	And the man Jeroboam was a mighty man of valour: and Solomon seeing the young man that he was industrious, he made him ruler over all the charge of the house of Joseph. 耶羅波安是大有才能的人。所羅門見這少年人殷勤,就派他監管約瑟家的一切工程。
1 Kings	And I will take thee, and thou shalt reign according to all that thy soul desireth, and shalt be
11:37	king over Israel.
	我必揀選你,使你照心裡一切所願的,作王治理以色列。
1 Kings 11:34	Howbeit I will not take the whole kingdom out of his hand: but I will make him prince all the
	days of his life for David my servant's sake, whom I chose, because he kept my
	commandments and my statutes:
	但我不從他手裡將全國奪回;使他終身為君,是因我所揀選的僕人大衛謹守我的誡命
	律例。

Once he had his own kingdom, Jeroboam forsook God completely. In His mercy, the Lord sent several prophets to him to awaken him to the consequences of his sin (13:2). None of them succeeded in causing Jeroboam to soften his heart towards the Lord. When his hand withered (v.4), Jeroboam was quick to ask the man of God to pray that his hand be restored (v.6). His prayer answered, Jeroboam did not think a bit about honoring God, though he was willing to honor the prophet. Even the sickness and eventual death of his fine son (see 14:13) failed to arouse repentance in Jeroboam. Instead of calling on God, he sent his wife in disguise to the prophet Ahijah亞希雅 merely to "inquire" as to what would happen to his son. The ability of the prophet to discern the true identity of his visitor, though she was disguised and he was virtually blind (vv. 4-6), was also of no consequence in changing Jeroboam's heart. It is a fearful thing to harden one's heart to the Word of the Lord.

1 Kings 13:2	And he cried against the altar in the word of the LORD, and said, O altar, altar, thus saith the LORD; Behold, a child shall be born unto the house of David, Josiah by name; and upon thee shall he offer the priests of the high places that burn incense upon thee, and men's bones shall be burnt upon thee. 神人奉耶和華的命向壇呼叫,說:壇哪,壇哪!耶和華如此說:大衛家裡必生一個兒子,名叫約西亞,他必將邱壇的祭司,就是在你上面燒香的,殺在你上面,人的骨頭也必燒在你上面。
1 Kings	And it came to pass, when king Jeroboam heard the saying of the man of God, which had
13:4	cried against the altar in Bethel, that he put forth his hand from the altar, saying, Lay hold on

	him. And his hand, which he put forth against him, dried up, so that he could not pull it in	
	again to him. 耶羅波安王聽見 神人向伯特利的壇所呼叫的話,就從壇上伸手,說:拿住他罷!王 向神人所伸的手就枯乾了,不能彎回;	
	And the king answered and said unto the man of God, Intreat now the face of the LORD thy	
	God, and pray for me, that my hand may be restored me again. And the man of God	
1 Kings	besought (ask earnestly) the LORD, and the king's hand was restored him again, and became as it	
13:6	was before.	
	王對 神人說:請你為我禱告,求耶和華-你 神的恩典使我的手復原。於是 神人 祈禱耶和華,王的手就復了原,仍如尋常一樣。	
	And all Israel shall mourn for him, and bury him: for he only of Jeroboam shall come to the	
1 Kings	grave, because in him there is found some good thing toward the LORD God of Israel in the	
14:13	house of Jeroboam.	
14.15	以色列眾人必為他哀哭,將他葬埋。凡屬耶羅波安的人,惟有他得入墳墓;因為在耶 羅波安的家中,只有他向耶和華-以色列的 神顯出善行。	
	⁴ And Jeroboam's wife did so, and arose, and went to Shiloh, and came to the house of Ahijah.	
1 Kings 14:4-6	But Ahijah could not see; for his eyes were set by reason of his age.	
	耶羅波安的妻就這樣行,起身往示羅去,到了亞希雅的家。亞希雅因年紀老邁,眼目發直,不能看見。	
	⁵ And the LORD said unto Ahijah, Behold, the wife of Jeroboam cometh to ask a thing of thee for her son; for he is sick: thus and thus shalt thou say unto her: for it shall be, when she	
	cometh in, that she shall feign herself to be another woman. 耶和華先曉諭亞希雅說:耶羅波安的妻要來問你,因他兒子病了,你當此此如此告訴他。他進來的時候必裝作別的婦人。	
	⁶ And it was so, when Ahijah heard the sound of her feet, as she came in at the door, that he	
	said, Come in, thou wife of Jeroboam; why feignest thou thyself to be another? for I am sent	
	to thee with heavy tidings.	
	他剛進門,亞希雅聽見他腳步的響聲,就說:耶羅波安的妻,進來罷!你為何裝作別的婦人呢?我奉差遣將凶事告訴你。	

In contrast to Jeroboam's reign was the reign of Asa, the third king of the Southern Kingdom. In this kingdom, also, through the folly of Rehoboam and his son Abijah, idolatry and immorality were rampant *(out of control; wide)*. Asa changed that as he tore down the places of idolatry (2 Chron. 14:3; 15:8) and drove the "male cult prostitutes" from the land (1 Kings 15:12 —RSV). Not even his grandmother was exempt from the purge (2 Chron. 15:16).

	³ For he took away the altars of the strange gods, and the high places, and brake down the images, and cut down the groves: 除掉外邦神的壇和邱壇,打碎柱像,砍下木偶,
2 Chronicles 14:3; 15:8	*And when Asa heard these words, and the prophecy of Oded (Azariah 亞 撒 利 雅 the son of Oded 俄 德) the prophet, he took courage, and put away the abominable idols out of all the land of Judah and Benjamin, and out of the cities which he had taken from mount Ephraim, and renewed the altar of the LORD, that was before the porch of the LORD. 亞 撒 聽 見 這 話 和 俄 德 兒 子 先 知 亞 撒 利 雅 的 預 言 , 就 壯 起 膽 來 , 在 猶 大 、 便 雅 憫 全 地 , 並 以 法 蓮 山 地 所 奪 的 各 城 , 將 可 憎 之 物 盡 都 除 掉 , 又 在 耶 和 華 殿 的 廊 前
	重新修築耶和華的壇;
1 Kings	And he took away the sodomites out of the land, and removed all the idols that his fathers
15:12	had made. 從國中除去孌童,又除掉他列祖所造的一切偶像;

2 Chronicles 15:16

And also concerning Maachah the mother (grandmother) of Asa the king, he removed her from being queen, because she had made an idol in a grove: and Asa cut down her idol, and stamped it, and burnt it at the brook Kidron.

亞撒王貶了他祖母瑪迦太后的位,因他造了可憎的偶像亞舍拉。亞撒砍下他的偶像,搗得粉碎,燒在汲淪溪邊。

Because he sought the Lord, he was given peace on every side and the land was free from war (14:7; 15:19). He relied on God, and the Lord did not fail him (14:11,12; 15:4). Great numbers deserted the Northern Kingdom and joined Asa when they saw the Lord was with him (v.9). Because Asa's heart was blameless and the people sought the Lord with all their heart and soul, He was found of them and gave them rest (v.15).

2 Chronicles 14:7; 15:19	14:7 Therefore he (King Asa) said unto Judah, Let us build these cities, and make about them walls, 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 hath given us rest on every side. So they built and prospered. 他對猶大人說:我們要建造這些城邑,四圍築牆,蓋樓,安門,做閂;地還屬我們,是因尋求耶和華-我們的 神;我們既尋求他,他就賜我們四境平安。於是建造城邑,諸事亨通。
	15:19And there was no more war unto the five and thirtieth year of the reign of Asa. 從這時直到亞撒三十五年,都沒有爭戰的事。
2 Chronicles 14:11-12; 15:4	11 And Asa cried unto the LORD his God, and said, LORD, it is nothing with thee to help, whether with many, or with them that have no power: help us, O LORD our God; for we rest on thee, and in thy name we go against this multitude. O LORD, thou art our God; let no man prevail against thee. 亞撒呼求耶和華-他的 神說:耶和華啊,惟有你能幫助軟弱的,勝過強盛的。耶和華-我們的 神啊,求你幫助我們;因為我們仰賴你,奉你的名來攻擊這大軍。耶和華啊,你是我們的 神,不要容人勝過你。 12 So the LORD smote the Ethiopians before Asa, and before Judah; and the Ethiopians fled. 於是耶和華使古實人敗在亞撒和猶大人面前,古實人就逃跑了; 15:4 But when they in their trouble did turn unto the LORD God of Israel, and sought him, he was found of them. 但他們在急難的時候歸向耶和華-以色列的 神,尋求他,他就被他們尋見。
2 Chronicles 15:9	And he gathered all Judah and Benjamin, and the strangers with them out of Ephraim and Manasseh, and out of Simeon: for they fell to him out of Israel in abundance, when they saw that the LORD his God was with him. 又招聚猶大、便雅憫的眾人,並他們中間寄居的以法蓮人、瑪拿西人、西緬人。有許多以色列人歸降亞撒,因見耶和華-他的 神與他同在。
2 Chronicles 15:15	And all Judah rejoiced at the oath: for they had sworn with all their heart, and sought him with their whole desire; and he was found of them: and the LORD gave them rest round about. 猶大眾人為所起的誓歡喜;因他們是盡心起誓,盡意尋求耶和華,耶和華就被他們尋見,且賜他們四境平安。

But even Asa later failed to trust the Lord in his need and was reprimanded by the prophet (16:8,9). So angry did Asa become with the prophet that he put him in stocks and afflicted the people (v. 10). Later in his sickness he again refused to trust the Lord (v.11).

2 Chronicles	⁸ Were not the Ethiopians and the Lubims a huge host, with very many chariots and
16:8,9	horsemen? yet, because thou didst rely on the LORD, he delivered them into thine hand.

	古實人、路比人的軍隊不是甚大麼?戰車馬兵不是極多麼?只因你仰賴耶和華,他便將他們交在你手裡。
	⁹ For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to shew himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him. Herein thou hast done foolishly: therefore from henceforth thou shalt have wars." 耶和華的眼目遍察全地,要顯大能幫助向他心存誠實的人。你這事行得愚昧;此後,你必有爭戰的事。
2 Chronicles 16:10	Then Asa was wroth with the seer, and put him in a prison house; for he was in a rage with
	him because of this thing. And Asa oppressed some of the people the same time. 亞撒因此惱恨先見,將他囚在監裡。那時亞撒也虐待一些人民。
2 Chronicles	And, behold, the acts of Asa, first and last, lo, they are written in the book of the kings of
16:11	Judah and Israel. 亞撒所行的事,自始至終都寫在猶大和以色列諸王記上。

THE LESSONS:

Prophets were men who spoke for God. Their role was to reveal God's mind to the people and the king. Prior to the kingdom, God spoke directly to the leaders of the kingdom. During Saul's reign we find God speaking through Samuel, and subsequently in the history of the kingdom through the prophets in each king's reign. The greatness of their responsibilities is evident by the results of one prophet's failure to follow exactly God's commands (1 Kings 13:20-24).

1 Kings 13:20-24	²⁰ And it came to pass, as they sat at the table, that the word of the LORD came unto the prophet that brought him back: 二人坐席的時候,耶和華的話臨到那帶神人回來的先知,
	²¹ And he cried unto the man of God that came from Judah, saying, Thus saith the LORD, Forasmuch as thou hast disobeyed the mouth of the LORD, and hast not kept the commandment which the LORD thy God commanded thee, 他就對那從猶大來的 神人說:耶和華如此說:你既違背耶和華的話,不遵守耶和華一你 神的命令,
	22 But camest back, and hast eaten bread and drunk water in the place, of the which the Lord did say to thee, Eat no bread, and drink no water; thy carcase shall not come unto the sepulchre of thy fathers. 反倒回來,在耶和華禁止你吃飯喝水的地方吃了喝了,因此你的屍身不得入你列祖的墳墓。
	²³ And it came to pass, after he had eaten bread, and after he had drunk, that he saddled for him the ass, to wit (that is to say, namely), for the prophet whom he had brought back. 吃喝完了,老先知為所帶回來的先知備驢。
	²⁴ And when he was gone, a lion met him by the way, and slew him: and his carcase was cast in the way, and the ass stood by it, the lion also stood by the carcase. 他就去了,在路上有個獅子遇見他,將他咬死,屍身倒在路上,驢站在屍身旁邊,獅子也站在屍身旁邊。

The blessings of *seeking the Lord and of doing His will*, and the results of failing to follow him are vividly portrayed not only in the contrast between Jeroboam's reign and Asa's but between the earlier and later days of Asa. Even when our trouble is the result of our sin, *turning to Him and seeking Him bring His help*. *Our greatest failure comes from under-estimating the greatness of God's mercy*. It took great courage for Asa to trust the Lord and "renew the altar," but his courage was rewarded with victory and blessing.

Conversely, Jeroboam's outright (absolute) refusal to acknowledge God and Asa's later departure from explicit trust led to failure. When we forsake Him, He cannot work in our behalf; but when we turn to Him, He responds to our need.

The Lord is exceedingly eager to help us. His eyes run to and fro throughout the whole earth looking for hearts that are perfect towards Him that He may show forth His strength on their behalf (2 Chron. 16:9). We need not implore Him and beg for His aid. He is waiting to assist the soul who trusts completely in Him.

2 Chronicles 16:9

For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to shew himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him. Herein thou hast done foolishly: therefore from henceforth thou shalt have wars."

耶和華的眼目遍察全地,要顯大能幫助向他心存誠實的人。你這事行得愚昧;此後,你必有爭戰的事。

Note:

<u>Jeroboam</u> 耶羅波安−1st King of Israel (King Solomon's servant)

Rehoboam 羅波安 - 1st King of Judah (King Solomon's son)

Note: Both Jeroboam and Rehoboam had a son named Abijah 亞比雅. (King Hezekiah's mother's name is also Abijah).

Monday: 1 Kings 11:26-43 列 王 紀 上

²⁶And Jeroboam the son of Nebat, an Ephrathite of Zereda, Solomon's servant, whose mother's name was Zeruah, a widow woman, even he lifted up his hand against the king.

所羅門的臣僕、尼八的兒子耶羅波安也舉手攻擊王。他是以法蓮支派的洗利達人,他母親是寡婦,名叫洗魯阿。(Zerujah 洗魯雅 is Joab's mother)

²⁷And this was the cause that he lifted up his hand against the king: Solomon built Millo, and repaired the breaches of the city of David his father.

他舉手攻擊王的緣故,乃由先前所羅門建造米羅,修補他父親大衛城的破口。

²⁸And the man Jeroboam was a mighty man of valour: and Solomon seeing the young man that he was industrious, he made him ruler over all the charge of the house of Joseph.

耶羅波安是大有才能的人。所羅門見這少年人殷勤,就派他監管約瑟家的一切工程。(Industrious: working energetically and devotedly; hard-working; diligent.) 動態的, 刻苦的

²⁹And it came to pass at that time when Jeroboam went out of Jerusalem, that the prophet Ahijah 亞希雅 the Shilonite found him in the way; and he had clad himself with a new garment; and they two were alone in the field:

一日,耶羅波安出了耶路撒冷,示羅人先知亞希雅在路上遇見他;亞希雅身上穿著一件新衣。他們二人在田野,以外並無別人。

30 And Ahijah caught the new garment that was on him, and rent it in twelve pieces: 亞希雅將自己穿的那件新衣撕成十二片,

³¹And he (**Ahijah**) said to Jeroboam, *Take thee ten pieces: for thus saith the LORD, the God of Israel, Behold, I will rend the kingdom out of the hand of Solomon, and will give ten tribes to thee:*

對耶羅波安說:你可以拿十片。耶和華-以色列的 神如此說:我必將國從所羅門手裡奪回,將十個 支派賜給你。

³² (But he shall have one tribe for my servant David's sake, and for Jerusalem's sake, the city which I have chosen out of all the tribes of Israel:)

(我因僕人大衛和我在以色列眾支派中所選擇的耶路撒冷城的緣故,仍給所羅門留一個支派。)

Because that they have forsaken me, and have worshipped Ashtoreth the goddess of the Zidonians, Chemosh the god of the Moabites, and Milcom the god of the children of Ammon, and have not walked in my ways, to do that which is right in mine eyes, and to keep my statutes and my judgments, as did David his father. 因為他離棄我,敬拜西頓人的女 神亞斯他錄、摩押的 神基抹,和亞捫人的 神米勒公,沒有遵從我的道,行我眼中看為正的事,守我的律例典章,像他父親大衛一樣。

³⁴ Howbeit I will not take the whole kingdom out of his hand: but I will make him prince all the days of his life for David my servant's sake, whom I chose, because he kept my commandments and my statutes: 但我不從他手裡將全國奪回;使他終身為君,是因我所揀選的僕人大衛謹守我的誡命律例。

But I will take the kingdom out of his son's hand, and will give it unto thee, even ten tribes. 我必從他兒子的手裡將國奪回,以十個支派賜給你,

³⁶ And unto his son will I give one tribe, that David my servant may have a light alway before me in Jerusalem, the city which I have chosen me to put my name there.

還留一個支派給他的兒子,使我僕人大衛在我所選擇立我名的耶路撒冷城裡,在我面前長有燈光。

- **37** And I will take thee, and thou shalt reign according to all that thy soul desireth, and shalt be king over Israel. 我必揀選你,使你照心裡一切所願的,作王治理以色列。
- And it shall be, if thou wilt <u>hearken</u> unto all that I command thee, and wilt <u>walk</u> in my ways, and <u>do</u> that is right in my sight, to <u>keep</u> my statutes and my commandments, as David my servant did; that I will be with thee, and build thee a sure house, as I built for David, and will give Israel unto thee.

你若聽從我一切所吩咐你的,遵行我的道,行我眼中看為正的事,謹守我的律例誡命,像我僕人大衛 所行的,我就與你同在,為你立堅固的家,像我為大衛所立的一樣,將以色列人賜給你。

³⁹ And I will for this afflict the seed of David, but not for ever.

我必因所羅門所行的使大衛後裔受患難,但不至於永遠。

⁴⁰Solomon sought therefore to kill Jeroboam. And Jeroboam arose, and fled into Egypt, unto Shishak king of Egypt, and was in Egypt until the death of Solomon.

所羅門因此想要殺耶羅波安。耶羅波安卻起身逃往埃及;到了埃及王示撒那裡,就住在埃及,直到所羅門死了。

⁴¹And the rest of the acts of Solomon, and all that he did, and his wisdom, are they not written in the book of the acts of Solomon?

所羅門其餘的事,凡他所行的和他的智慧都寫在所羅門記上。

⁴²And the time that Solomon reigned in Jerusalem over all Israel was forty years. 所羅門在耶路撒冷作以色列眾人的王共四十年。

⁴³And Solomon slept with his fathers, and was buried in the city of David his father: and Rehoboam his son reigned in his stead.

所羅門與他列祖同睡,葬在他父親大衛的城裡。他兒子羅波安接續他作王。

Tuesday: 1 Kings 12:1-24 列 王 紀 上

¹And Rehoboam went to Shechem: for all Israel were come to Shechem to make him king. 羅波安往示劍去;因為以色列人都到了示劍要立他作王。

²And it came to pass, when Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who was yet in Egypt, heard of it, (for he was fled from the presence of king Solomon, and Jeroboam dwelt in Egypt;)

尼八的兒子耶羅波安先前躲避所羅門王,逃往埃及,住在那裡(他聽見這事。)

³That they sent and called him. And **Jeroboam and all the congregation** of Israel came, and spake unto Rehoboam, saying,

以色列人打發人去請他來,他就和以色列會眾都來見羅波安,對他說:

⁴ Thy father made our yoke grievous: now therefore make thou the grievous service of thy father, and his heavy yoke which he put upon us, lighter, and we will serve thee.

你父親使我們負重軛,做苦工,現在求你使我們做的苦工、負的重軛輕鬆些,我們就事奉你。

⁵And he (**King Rehoboam**) said unto them, *Depart yet for three days, then come again to me*. And the people departed.

羅波安對他們說:你們暫且去,第三日再來見我。民就去了。

⁶And king Rehoboam consulted with the old men, that stood before Solomon his father while he yet lived, and said, *How do ye advise that I may answer this people?*

羅波安之父所羅門在世的日子,有侍立在他面前的老年人,羅波安王和他們商議,說:你們給我出個甚麼主意,我好回覆這民。

⁷And they **(the old men)** spake unto him, saying, *If thou wilt be a servant unto this people this day, and wilt serve them, and answer them, and speak good words to them, then they will be thy servants for ever.* 老年人對他說:現在王若服事這民如僕人,用好話回答他們,他們就永遠作王的僕人。

⁸But he forsook the counsel of the old men, which they had given him, and consulted with the young men that were grown up with him, and which stood before him:

王卻不用老年人給他出的主意,就和那些與他一同長大、在他面前侍立的少年人商議,

⁹And he (**King Rehoboam**) said unto them, What counsel give ye that we may answer this people, who have spoken to me, saying, Make the yoke which thy father did put upon us lighter?

說:這民對我說:你父親使我們負重軛,求你使我們輕鬆些。你們給我出個甚麼主意,我好回覆他們。

¹⁰And **the young men** that were grown up with him spake unto him, saying, *Thus shalt thou speak unto this people that spake unto thee, saying, Thy father made our yoke heavy, but make thou it lighter unto us; thus shalt thou say unto them, My little finger shall be thicker than my father's loins.*

那同他長大的少年人說:這民對王說:你父親使我們負重軛,求你使我們輕鬆些。王要對他們如此說: 我的小拇指頭比我父親的腰還粗。

¹¹ And now whereas my father did lade you with a heavy yoke, I will add to your yoke: my father hath chastised you with whips, but I will chastise you with scorpions.

我父親使你們負重軛,我必使你們負更重的軛!我父親用鞭子責打你們,我要用蠍子鞭責打你們!

¹²So Jeroboam and all the people came to Rehoboam the third day, as the king had appointed, saying, Come to me again the third day.

耶羅波安和眾百姓遵著羅波安王所說你們第三日再來見我的那話,第三日他們果然來了。

¹³And the king answered the people roughly, and forsook the old men's counsel that they gave him;

王用嚴厲的話回答百姓,不用老年人給他所出的主意,

¹⁴And (**King Rehoboam**) spake to them after the counsel of the young men, saying, *My father made your yoke heavy, and I will add to your yoke: my father also chastised you with whips, but I will chastise you with scorpions.*

照著少年人所出的主意對民說:我父親使你們負重軛,我必使你們負更重的軛!我父親用鞭子責打你們,我要用蠍子鞭責打你們!

¹⁵Wherefore the king hearkened not unto the people; for the cause was from the LORD, that he might perform his saying, which the LORD spake by Ahijah the Shilonite unto Jeroboam the son of Nebat.

王不肯依從百姓,這事乃出於耶和華,為要應驗他藉示羅人亞希雅對尼八的兒子耶羅波安所說的話。

¹⁶So when all Israel saw that the king hearkened not unto them, **the people** answered the king, saying, *What portion have we in David? neither have we inheritance in the son of Jesse: to your tents, O Israel: now see to thine own house, David.* So Israel departed unto their tents.

以色列眾民見王不依從他們,就對王說:我們與大衛有甚麼分兒呢?與耶西的兒子並沒有關涉。以色列人哪,各回各家去罷!大衛家啊,自己顧自己罷!於是,以色列人都回自己家裡去了,

¹⁷But as for the children of Israel which dwelt in the cities of Judah, Rehoboam reigned over them. 惟獨住猶大城邑的以色列人,羅波安仍作他們的王。

¹⁸Then king Rehoboam sent Adoram, who was over the tribute; and all Israel stoned him with stones, that he died. Therefore king Rehoboam made speed to get him up to his chariot, to flee to Jerusalem.

羅波安王差遣掌管服苦之人的亞多蘭往以色列人那裡去,以色列人就用石頭打死他。羅波安王急忙上車,逃回耶路撒冷去了。

¹⁹So Israel rebelled against the house of David unto this day.

這樣,以色列人背叛大衛家,直到今日。

²⁰And it came to pass, when all Israel heard that Jeroboam was come again, that they sent and called him unto the congregation, and made him king over all Israel: there was none that followed the house of David, but the tribe of Judah only.

以色列眾人聽見耶羅波安回來了,就打發人去請他到會眾面前,立他作以色列眾人的王。除了猶大支派以外,沒有順從大衛家的。

²¹And when Rehoboam was come to Jerusalem, he assembled all the house of Judah, with the tribe of Benjamin, an hundred and fourscore thousand chosen men, which were warriors, to fight against the house of Israel, to bring the kingdom again to Rehoboam the son of Solomon.

羅波安來到耶路撒冷,招聚猶大全家和便雅憫支派的人共十八萬,都是挑選的戰士,要與以色列家爭戰,好將國奪回,再歸所羅門的兒子羅波安。

²²But the word of God came unto <mark>Shemaiah 示瑪雅</mark> the man of God, saying,

但 神的話臨到 神人示瑪雅,說:

²³ Speak unto Rehoboam, the son of Solomon, king of Judah, and unto all the house of Judah and Benjamin, and to the remnant of the people, saying,

你去告訴所羅門的兒子猶大王羅波安和猶大、便雅憫全家,並其餘的民說:

²⁴ Thus saith the LORD, Ye shall not go up, nor fight against your brethren the children of Israel: return every man to his house; for this thing is from me. They <u>hearkened</u> therefore to the word of the LORD, and returned to depart, according to the word of the LORD.

耶和華如此說:你們不可上去與你們的弟兄以色列人爭戰。各歸各家去罷!因為這事出於我。眾人就聽從耶和華的話,遵著耶和華的命回去了。

Wednesday: 1 Kings 13:1-32 列王紀上

¹And, behold, there came a man of God out of Judah by the word of the LORD unto Bethel: and Jeroboam stood by the altar to burn incense.

那時,有一個 神人奉耶和華的命從猶大來到伯特利。耶羅波安正站在壇旁要燒香;

Prophecy (1 Kings 13:2-3)

²And **he** cried against the altar in the word of the LORD, and said, *O altar, altar, thus saith the LORD;* Behold, a child shall be born unto the house of David, Josiah by name; and upon thee shall he offer the priests of the high places that burn incense upon thee, and men's bones shall be burnt upon thee.

神人奉耶和華的命向壇呼叫,說:壇哪,壇哪! 耶和華如此說:大衛家裡必生一個兒子,名叫約 西亞,他必將邱壇的祭司,就是在你上面燒香 的,殺在你上面,人的骨頭也必燒在你上面。

³And he gave a sign the same day, saying, *This is the sign which the LORD hath spoken; Behold, the altar shall be rent, and the ashes that are upon it shall be poured out.*

當日,神人設個預兆,說:這壇必破裂,壇上的 灰必傾撒,這是耶和華說的預兆。

²⁹And the prophet took up the carcase of the man of God, and laid it upon the ass, and brought it back: and the old prophet came to the city, to mourn and to bury him.

老先知就把 神人的屍身馱在驢上,帶回自己的 城裡,要哀哭他,葬埋他;

- ³⁰And he laid his carcase in his own grave; and they mourned over him, saying, *Alas, my brother!* 就把他的屍身葬在自己的墳墓裡,哀哭他,說:哀哉!我兄啊。
- ³¹And it came to pass, after he had buried him, that he spake to his sons, saying, When I am dead, then bury me in the sepulchre wherein the man of God is buried; lay my bones beside his bones:

安葬之後,老先知對他兒子們說:我死了,你們 要葬我在 神人的墳墓裡,使我的屍骨靠近他的 屍骨,

For the saying which he cried by the word of the LORD against the altar in Bethel, and against all the houses of the high places which are in the cities of Samaria, shall surely come to pass.

因為他奉耶和華的命指著伯特利的壇和撒瑪利亞各城有邱壇之殿所說的話必定應驗。

Fulfillment (2 Kings 23:15-20)

¹⁵Moreover the altar that was at Bethel, and the high place which Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who made Israel to sin, had made, both that altar and the high place he brake down, and burned the high place, and stamped it small to powder, and burned the grove. 他將伯特利的壇,就是叫以色列人陷在罪裡、尼八的兒子耶羅波安所築的那壇,都拆毀焚燒,打碎成灰,並焚燒了亞舍拉。

¹⁶And as Josiah turned himself, he spied (see somebody or something suddenly) the sepulchres that were there in the mount, and sent, and took the bones out of the sepulchres, and burned them upon the altar, and polluted it, according to the word of the LORD which the man of God proclaimed, who proclaimed these words.

約西亞回頭,看見山上的墳墓,就打發人將墳墓裡的骸骨取出來,燒在壇上,污穢了壇,正如從前 神人宣傳耶和華的話。

¹⁷Then he (**King Josiah**) said, *What title is that that I see?* And **the men** of the city told him, *It is the sepulchre of the man of God, which came from Judah, and proclaimed these things that thou hast done against the altar of Bethel.*

約西亞問說:我所看見的是甚麼碑?那城裡的人 回答說:先前有 神人從猶大來,預先說王現在 向伯特利壇所行的事,這就是他的墓碑。

18 And he (**King Josiah**) said, *Let him alone; let no man move his bones*. So they let his bones alone, with the bones of the prophet that came out of Samaria. 約西亞說:由他罷!不要挪移他的骸骨。他們就不動他的骸骨,也不動從撒瑪利亞來那先知的骸骨。

¹⁹And all the houses also of the high places that were in the cities of Samaria, which the kings of Israel had made to provoke the Lord to anger, Josiah took away, and did to them according to all the acts that he had done in Bethel.

從前以色列諸王在撒瑪利亞的城邑建築邱壇的 殿,惹動耶和華的怒氣,現在約西亞都廢去了, 就如他在伯特利所行的一般; 20 And he slew all the priests of the high places that were there upon the altars, and burned men's bones upon them, and returned to Jerusalem. 又將邱壇的祭司都殺在壇上,並在壇上燒人的骨頭,就回耶路撒冷去了。

耶羅波安王聽見 神人向伯特利的壇所呼叫的話,就從壇上伸手,說:拿住他罷!王向神人所伸的手就枯乾了,不能彎回;

⁵The altar also was rent, and the ashes poured out from the altar, according to the sign which the man of God had given by the word of the LORD.

壇也破裂了, 壇上的灰傾撒了, 正如 神人奉耶和華的命所設的預兆。

⁶And **the king** answered and said unto the man of God, *Intreat now the face of the LORD thy God, and pray for me, that my hand may be restored me again.* And the man of God besought (ask earnestly) the LORD, and the king's hand was restored him again, and became as it was before.

王對 神人說:請你為我禱告,求耶和華-你 神的恩典使我的手復原。於是 神人祈禱耶和華,王的手就復了原,仍如尋常一樣。

⁷And **the king** said unto the man of God, *Come home with me, and refresh thyself, and I will give thee a reward.* 王對 神人說:請你同我回去吃飯,加添心力,我也必給你賞賜。

⁸And **the man of God** said unto the king, *If thou wilt give me half thine house, I will not go in with thee, neither will I eat bread nor drink water in this place:*

神人對王說:你就是把你的宮一半給我,我也不同你進去,也不在這地方吃飯喝水;

⁹ For so was it charged me by the word of the LORD, saying, Eat no bread, nor drink water, nor turn again by the same way that thou camest.

因為有耶和華的話囑咐我,說不可在伯特利吃飯喝水,也不可從你去的原路回來。

10So he went another way, and returned not by the way that he came to Bethel. 於是神人從別的路回去,不從伯特利來的原路回去。

¹¹Now there dwelt an old prophet in Bethel; and his sons came and told him all the works that the man of God had done that day in Bethel: the words which he had spoken unto the king, them they told also to their father. 有一個老先知住在伯特利,他兒子們來,將一神人當日在伯特利所行的一切事和向王所說的話都告訴了父親。

¹²And **their father** said unto them, *What way went he?* For his sons had seen what way the man of God went, which came from Judah.

父親問他們說:神人從哪條路去了呢?兒子們就告訴他;原來他們看見那從猶大來的 神人所去的路。

¹³And he said unto his sons, *Saddle me the ass*. So they saddled him the ass: and he rode thereon, 老先知就吩咐他兒子們說:你們為我備驢。他們備好了驢,他就騎上,

⁴And it came to pass, when **king Jeroboam** heard the saying of the man of God, which had cried against the altar in Bethel, that he put forth his hand from the altar, saying, *Lay hold on him*. And his hand, which he put forth against him, dried up, so that he could not pull it in again to him.

¹⁴And went after the man of God, and found him sitting under an oak: and he said unto him, *Art thou the man of God that camest from Judah?* And he (**the man of God**) said, *I am*.

去追趕 神人,遇見他坐在橡樹底下,就問他說:你是從猶大來的 神人不是?他說:是。

¹⁵Then he said unto him, *Come home with me, and eat bread.*

老先知對他說:請你同我回家吃飯。

¹⁶And he (**the man of God**) said, I may not return with thee, nor go in with thee: neither will I eat bread nor drink water with thee in this place:

神人說:我不可同你回去進你的家,也不可在這裡同你吃飯喝水;

¹⁷ For it was said to me by the word of the LORD, Thou shalt eat no bread nor drink water there, nor turn again to go by the way that thou camest.

因為有耶和華的話囑咐我說:你在那裡不可吃飯喝水,也不可從你去的原路回來。

18 He said unto him, *I* am a prophet also as thou art; and an angel spake unto me by the word of the LORD, saying, Bring him back with thee into thine house, that he may eat bread and drink water. But he lied unto him. 老先知對他說:我也是先知,和你一樣。有天使奉耶和華的命對我說:你去把他帶回你的家,叫他吃飯喝水。這都是老先知誆哄他。

¹⁹So he went back with him, and did eat bread in his house, and drank water. 於是神人同老先知回去,在他家裡吃飯喝水。

²⁰And it came to pass, as they sat at the table, that the word of the LORD came unto the prophet that brought him back:

二人坐席的時候, 耶和華的話臨到那帶神人回來的先知,

²¹And he cried unto the man of God that came from Judah, saying, *Thus saith the LORD, Forasmuch as thou hast disobeyed the mouth of the LORD, and hast not kept the commandment which the LORD thy God commanded thee,*

他就對那從猶大來的 神人說:耶和華如此說:你既違背耶和華的話,不遵守耶和華-你 神的命令,

Eat no bread, and drink no water; thy carcase shall not come unto the sepulchre of thy fathers.
反倒回來,在耶和華禁止你吃飯喝水的地方吃了喝了,因此你的屍身不得入你列祖的墳墓。

²³And it came to pass, after he had eaten bread, and after he had drunk, that he saddled for him the ass, to wit (that is to say, namely), for the prophet whom he had brought back. 吃喝完了,老先知為所帶回來的先知備驢。

²⁴And when he was gone, a lion met him by the way, and slew him: and his carcase was cast in the way, and the ass stood by it, the lion also stood by the carcase.

他就去了,在路上有個獅子遇見他,將他咬死,屍身倒在路上,驢站在屍身旁邊,獅子也站在屍身旁邊。

²⁵And, behold, men passed by, and saw the carcase cast in the way, and the lion standing by the carcase: and they came and told it in the city where the old prophet dwelt.

有人從那裡經過,看見屍身倒在路上,獅子站在屍身旁邊,就來到老先知所住的城裡述說這事。

²⁶And when **the prophet** that brought him back from the way heard thereof, he said, *It is the man of God, who was disobedient unto the word of the LORD: therefore the LORD hath delivered him unto the lion, which hath torn him, and slain him, according to the word of the LORD, which he spake unto him.*

那帶神人回來的先知聽見這事,就說:這是那違背了耶和華命令的 神人,所以耶和華把他交給獅子;獅子抓傷他,咬死他,是應驗耶和華對他說的話。

²⁷And he spake to his sons, saying, *Saddle me the ass*. And they saddled him.

老先知就吩咐他兒子們說:你們為我備驢。他們就備了驢。

²⁸And he went and found his carcase cast in the way, and the ass and the lion standing by the carcase: the lion had not eaten the carcase, nor torn the ass.

他去了,看見神人的屍身倒在路上,驢和獅子站在屍身旁邊,獅子卻沒有吃屍身,也沒有抓傷驢。

²⁹And the prophet took up the carcase of the man of God, and laid it upon the ass, and brought it back: and the old prophet came to the city, to mourn and to bury him.

老先知就把 神人的屍身馱在驢上,帶回自己的城裡,要哀哭他,葬埋他;

30 And he laid his carcase in his own grave; and they mourned over him, saying, *Alas, my brother!* 就把他的屍身葬在自己的墳墓裡,哀哭他,說:哀哉!我兄啊。

³¹And it came to pass, after he had buried him, that he spake to his sons, saying, *When I am dead, then bury me in the sepulchre wherein the man of God is buried; lay my bones beside his bones:*

安葬之後,老先知對他兒子們說:我死了,你們要葬我在 神人的墳墓裡,使我的屍骨靠近他的屍骨,

³² For the saying which he cried by the word of the LORD against the altar in Bethel, and against all the houses of the high places which are in the cities of Samaria, shall surely come to pass.

因為他奉耶和華的命指著伯特利的壇和撒瑪利亞各城有邱壇之殿所說的話必定應驗。

Thursday: 1 Kings 14:1-18 列 王 紀 上

¹At that time Abijah the son of Jeroboam fell sick.

那時,耶羅波安的兒子亞比雅病了。

²And **Jeroboam** said to his wife, Arise, I pray thee, and disguise thyself, that thou be not known to be the wife of Jeroboam; and get thee to Shiloh: behold, there is Ahijah the prophet, which told me that I should be king over this people.

耶羅波安對他的妻說:你可以起來改裝,使人不知道你是耶羅波安的妻,往示羅去,在那裡有先知亞 希雅。他曾告訴我說,你必作這民的王。

³ And take with thee ten loaves, and cracknels, and a cruse of honey, and go to him: he shall tell thee what shall become of the child. (Cracknel: a hard, brittle cake or biscuit. Cruse: an earthen pot, bottle, etc., for liquids.)
現在你要帶十個餅,與幾個薄餅,和一瓶蜜去見他,他必告訴你兒子將要怎樣。

⁴And Jeroboam's wife did so, and arose, and went to Shiloh, and came to the house of Ahijah. But Ahijah could not see; for his eyes were set by reason of his age.

耶羅波安的妻就這樣行,起身往示羅去,到了亞希雅的家。亞希雅因年紀老邁,眼目發直,不能看見。

⁵And **the LORD** said unto Ahijah, Behold, the wife of Jeroboam cometh to ask a thing of thee for her son; for he is sick: thus and thus shalt thou say unto her: for it shall be, when she cometh in, that she shall feign herself to be another woman.

耶和華先曉諭亞希雅說:耶羅波安的妻要來問你,因他兒子病了,你當此此如此告訴他。他進來的時候必裝作別的婦人。

⁶And it was so, when **Ahijah** heard the sound of her feet, as she came in at the door, that he said, *Come in, thou wife of Jeroboam; why feignest thou thyself to be another? for I am sent to thee with heavy tidings.* 他剛進門,亞希雅聽見他腳步的響聲,就說:耶羅波安的妻,進來罷!你為何裝作別的婦人呢?我奉差遣將凶事告訴你。

⁷ Go, tell Jeroboam, Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, Forasmuch as I exalted thee from among the people, and made thee prince over my people Israel,

你回去告訴耶羅波安說:耶和華-以色列的 神如此說:我從民中將你高舉,立你作我民以色列的君,

⁸ And rent the kingdom away from the house of David, and gave it thee: and yet thou hast not been as my servant David, who <u>kept</u> my commandments, and who <u>followed</u> me with <u>all</u> his heart, to <u>do</u> that only which <u>was right in mine eyes;</u>

將國從大衛家奪回賜給你;你卻不效法我僕人大衛,遵守我的誡命,一心順從我,行我眼中看為正的事。

⁹ But hast done evil above all that were before thee: for thou hast gone and made thee other gods, and molten images, to provoke me to anger, and hast cast me behind thy back:

你竟行惡,比那在你以先的更甚,為自己立了別 神,鑄了偶像,惹我發怒,將我丟在背後。

¹⁰ Therefore, behold, I will bring evil upon the house of Jeroboam, and will cut off from Jeroboam him that pisseth against the wall, and him that is shut up and left in Israel, and will take away the remnant of the house of Jeroboam, as a man taketh away dung, till it be all gone.

因此,我必使災禍臨到耶羅波安的家,將屬耶羅波安的男丁,無論困住的、自由的都從以色列中剪除,必除盡耶羅波安的家,如人除盡糞土一般。

¹¹ Him that dieth of Jeroboam in the city shall the dogs eat; and him that dieth in the field shall the fowls of the air eat: for the LORD hath spoken it.

凡屬耶羅波安的人,死在城中的必被狗吃,死在田野的必被空中的鳥吃。這是耶和華說的。

- **12** Arise thou therefore, get thee to thine own house: and when thy feet enter into the city, the child shall die. 所以你起身回家去罷!你的腳一進城,你兒子就必死了。
- ¹³ And all Israel shall mourn for him, and bury him: for he only of Jeroboam shall come to the grave, because in him there is found some good thing toward the LORD God of Israel in the house of Jeroboam. 以色列眾人必為他哀哭,將他葬埋。凡屬耶羅波安的人,惟有他得入墳墓;因為在耶羅波安的家中,只有他向耶和華—以色列的 神顯出善行。
- ¹⁴ Moreover the LORD shall raise him up a king over Israel, who shall cut off the house of Jeroboam that day: but what? even now.

耶和華必另立一王治理以色列。到了日期,他必剪除耶羅波安的家;那日期已經到了。

¹⁵ For the LORD shall smite Israel, as a reed is shaken in the water, and he shall root up Israel out of this good land, which he gave to their fathers, and shall scatter them beyond the river, because they have made their groves, provoking the LORD to anger.

耶和華必擊打以色列人,使他們搖動,像水中的蘆葦一般;又將他們從耶和華賜給他們列祖的美地上 拔出來,分散在大河那邊;因為他們做木偶,惹耶和華發怒。

16 And he shall give Israel up because of the sins of Jeroboam, who did sin, and who made Israel to sin. 因耶羅波安所犯的罪,又使以色列人陷在罪裡,耶和華必將以色列人交給仇敵。

¹⁷And Jeroboam's wife arose, and departed, and came to Tirzah: and when she came to the threshold of the door, the child died;

耶羅波安的妻起身回去,到了得撒,剛到門檻,兒子就死了。

¹⁸And they buried him; and all Israel mourned for him, according to the word of the LORD, which he spake by the hand of his servant Ahijah the prophet.

以色列眾人將他葬埋,為他哀哭,正如耶和華藉他僕人先知亞希雅所說的話。

Friday: 2 Chronicles 14 歷代志下

¹So Abijah slept with his fathers, and they buried him in the city of David: and Asa his son reigned in his stead. In his days the land was quiet ten years.

亞比雅與他列祖同睡,葬在大衛城裡。他兒子亞撒接續他作王。亞撒年間,國中太平十年。

²And Asa did that which was good and right in the eyes of the LORD his God: 亞撒行耶和華-他 神眼中看為善為正的事,

³For he took away the altars of the strange gods, and the high places, and brake down the images, and cut down the groves:

除掉外邦神的壇和邱壇,打碎柱像,砍下木偶,

⁴And commanded Judah to **seek** the LORD God of their fathers, and to **do** the law and the commandment. 吩咐猶大人尋求耶和華-他們列祖的 神,遵行他的律法、誡命;

⁵Also he took away out of all the cities of Judah the high places and the images: and the kingdom was quiet before him.

又在猶大各城邑除掉邱壇和日像,那時國享太平;

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

又在猶大建造了幾座堅固城。國中太平數年,沒有戰爭,因為耶和華賜他平安。

⁷Therefore he (**King Asa**) said unto Judah, *Let us build these cities, and make about them walls, 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 hath given us rest on every side.* So they built and prospered.

他對猶大人說:我們要建造這些城邑,四圍築牆,蓋樓,安門,做閂;地還屬我們,是因尋求耶和華-我們的 神;我們既尋求他,他就賜我們四境平安。於是建造城邑,諸事亨通。

⁸And Asa had an army of men that bare targets (board) and spears, out of Judah three hundred thousand; and out of Benjamin, that bare shields and drew bows, two hundred and fourscore thousand: all these were mighty men of valour.

亞撒的軍兵,出自猶大拿盾牌拿槍的三十萬人;出自便雅憫拿盾牌拉弓的二十八萬人。這都是大能的勇士。

 9 And there came out against them Zerah 謝 拉 the Ethiopian with an host of a thousand thousand, and three hundred chariots; and came unto Mareshah 瑪 利 沙.

有古實王謝拉率領軍兵一百萬,戰車三百輛,出來攻擊猶大人,到了瑪利沙。

10Then Asa went out against him, and they set the battle in array in the valley of Zephathah at Mareshah. 於是亞撒出去與他迎敵,就在瑪利沙的洗法谷彼此擺陣。

¹¹And **Asa** cried unto the LORD his God, and said, *LORD*, it is nothing with thee to help, whether with many, or with them that have no power: help us, O LORD our God; for we rest on thee, and in thy name we go against this multitude. O LORD, thou art our God; let no man prevail against thee.

亞撒呼求耶和華-他的 神說:耶和華啊,惟有你能幫助軟弱的,勝過強盛的。耶和華-我們的 神啊,求你幫助我們;因為我們仰賴你,奉你的名來攻擊這大軍。耶和華啊,你是我們的 神,不要容人勝過你。

於是耶和華使古實人敗在亞撒和猶大人面前,古實人就逃跑了;

亞撒和跟隨他的軍兵追趕他們,直到基拉耳。古實人被殺的甚多,不能再強盛,因為敗在耶和華與他軍兵面前。猶大人就奪了許多財物,

又打破基拉耳四圍的城邑;耶和華使其中的人都甚恐懼。猶大人又將所有的城擴掠一空,因其中的

財物甚多,又毀壞了群畜的圈,奪取許多的羊和駱駝,就回耶路撒冷去了。

¹²So the LORD smote the Ethiopians before Asa, and before Judah; and the Ethiopians fled.

 $^{^{13}}$ And Asa and the people that were with him pursued them unto Gerar 基拉耳: and the Ethiopians were overthrown, that they could not recover themselves; for they were destroyed before the LORD, and before his host; and they carried away very much spoil.

¹⁴And they smote all the cities round about Gerar; for the fear of the LORD came upon them: and they spoiled all the cities; for there was exceeding much spoil in them.

¹⁵They smote also the tents of cattle, and carried away sheep and camels in abundance, and returned to Jerusalem.

Saturday: 2 Chronicles 15 歷代志下

¹And the Spirit of God came upon Azariah 亞撒利雅 the son of Oded 俄德: 神的靈感動俄德的兒子亞撒利雅。

²And he (**Azariah** 亞撒利雅) went out to meet Asa, and said unto him, *Hear ye me, Asa, and all Judah and Benjamin;* **The LORD is with you, while ye be with him**; and **if ye seek him, he will be found of you**; but if ye forsake him, he will forsake you.

他出來迎接亞撒,對他說:亞撒和猶大、便雅憫眾人哪,要聽我說:你們若順從耶和華,耶和華必與你們同在;你們若尋求他,就必尋見;你們若離棄他,他必離棄你們。

³ Now for a long season Israel hath been without the true God, and without a **teaching priest**, and without law. 以色列人不信真 神,沒有訓誨的祭司,也沒有律法,已經好久了;

⁴ But when they in their trouble did turn unto the LORD God of Israel, and sought him, he was found of them. 但他們在急難的時候歸向耶和華-以色列的 神,尋求他,他就被他們尋見。

⁵ And in those times there was no peace to him that went out, nor to him that came in, but great vexations were upon all the inhabitants of the countries.

那時,出入的人不得平安,列國的居民都遭大亂;

⁶ And nation was destroyed of nation, and city of city: for God did vex them with all adversity. 這國攻擊那國,這城攻擊那城,互相破壞,因為一神用各樣災難擾亂他們。

⁷ <u>Be ye strong</u> therefore, and let not your hands be weak: for your work shall be rewarded. 現在你們要剛強,不要手軟,因你們所行的必得賞賜。

⁸And when Asa heard these words, and the prophecy of Oded (Azariah the son of Oded) the prophet, **he took courage**, and **put away** the abominable idols out of all the land of Judah and Benjamin, and out of the cities which he had taken from mount Ephraim, and **renewed** the altar of the LORD, that was before the porch of the LORD.

亞撒聽見這話和俄德兒子先知亞撒利雅的預言,就壯起膽來,在猶大、便雅憫全地,並以法蓮山地所奪的各城,將可憎之物盡都除掉,又在耶和華殿的廊前重新修築耶和華的壇;

⁹And he *gathered* all Judah and Benjamin, and the strangers with them out of Ephraim and Manasseh, and out of Simeon: for they fell to him out of Israel in abundance, when they saw that the LORD his God was with him. 又招聚猶大、便雅憫的眾人,並他們中間寄居的以法蓮人、瑪拿西人、西緬人。有許多以色列人歸降亞撒,因見耶和華-他的 神與他同在。

¹⁰So they gathered themselves together at Jerusalem in the third month, in the fifteenth year of the reign of Asa.

亞撒十五年三月,他們都聚集在耶路撒冷。

¹¹And they *offered* unto the LORD the same time, of the spoil which they had brought, seven hundred oxen and seven thousand sheep.

當日他們從所取的擄物中,將牛七百隻、羊七千隻獻給耶和華。

¹²And they entered into a covenant to seek the LORD God of their fathers with all their heart and with all their soul;

他們就立約,要盡心盡性地尋求耶和華-他們列祖的

¹³That whosoever would not seek the LORD God of Israel should be put to death, whether small or great, whether man or woman.

凡不尋求耶和華-以色列 神的,無論大小、男女,必被治死。

¹⁴And they sware unto the LORD with a loud voice, and with shouting, and with trumpets, and with cornets. 他們就大聲歡呼,吹號吹角,向耶和華起誓。Cornet

¹⁵And all Judah *rejoiced* at the oath: for they had **sworn with all their heart**, and **sought him with their whole** desire; and he was found of them: and the LORD gave them rest round about.

猶大眾人為所起的誓歡喜;因他們是盡心起誓,盡意尋求耶和華,耶和華就被他們尋見,且賜他們四 境平安。

¹⁶And also concerning Maachah the mother (grandmother) of Asa the king, he removed her from being queen, because she had made an idol in a grove: and Asa cut down her idol, and stamped it, and burnt it at the brook

亞撒王貶了他祖母瑪迦太后的位,因他造了可憎的偶像亞舍拉。亞撒砍下他的偶像,搗得粉碎,燒在 汲淪溪邊。

¹⁷But the high places were not taken away out of Israel: nevertheless the heart of Asa was perfect all his days. 只是邱壇還沒有從以色列中廢去,然而亞撒的心一生誠實。

¹⁸And he brought into the house of God the things that his father had dedicated, and that he himself had dedicated, silver, and gold, and vessels.

亞撒將他父所分別為聖、與自己所分別為聖的金銀和器皿都奉到 神的殿裡。

¹⁹And there was no more war unto the five and thirtieth year of the reign of Asa.

Sunday: 2 Chronicles 16:1-14 歷代志下

¹In the six and thirtieth year of the reign of Asa Baasha king of Israel came up against Judah, and built Ramah, to the intent that he might let none go out or come in to Asa king of Judah.

亞撒三十六年,以色列王巴沙上來攻擊猶大,修築拉瑪,不許人從猶大王亞撒那裡出入。

²Then **Asa** brought out silver and gold out of the treasures of the house of the LORD and of the king's house, and sent to Benhadad king of Syria, that dwelt at Damascus, saying,

於是亞撒從耶和華殿和王宮的府庫裡拿出金銀來,送與住大馬色的亞蘭王便哈達,說:

³ There is a league between me and thee, as there was between my father and thy father: behold, I have sent thee silver and gold; go, break thy league with Baasha king of Israel, that he may depart from me. 你父曾與我父立約,我與你也要立約。現在我將金銀送給你,求你廢掉你與以色列王巴沙所立的約,使他離開我。

⁴And Benhadad hearkened unto king Asa, and sent the captains of his armies against the cities of Israel; and they smote Ijon, and Dan, and Abelmaim, and all the store cities of Naphtali.

便哈達聽從亞撒王的話,派軍長去攻擊以色列的城邑。他們就攻破以雲、但、亞伯瑪音,和拿弗他利一切的積貨城。

⁵And it came to pass, when Baasha heard it, that he left off building of Ramah, and let his work cease. 巴沙聽見就停工,不修築拉瑪了。

⁶Then Asa the king took all Judah; and they carried away the stones of Ramah, and the timber thereof, wherewith Baasha was building; and he built therewith Geba and Mizpah.

於是亞撒王率領猶大眾人,將巴沙修築拉瑪所用的石頭、木頭都運去,用以修築迦巴和米斯巴。

⁷And at that time Hanani 哈拿尼 the seer came to Asa king of Judah, and said unto him, "Because thou hast relied on the king of Syria, and not relied on the LORD thy God, therefore is the host of the king of Syria escaped out of thine hand.

那時,先見哈拿尼來見猶大王亞撒,對他說:因你仰賴亞蘭王,沒有仰賴耶和華-你的 神,所以亞蘭王的軍兵脫離了你的手。

⁸ Were not the Ethiopians and the Lubims a huge host, with very many chariots and horsemen? yet, because thou didst rely on the LORD, he delivered them into thine hand.

古實人、路比人的軍隊不是甚大麼?戰車馬兵不是極多麼?只因你仰賴耶和華,他便將他們交在你手裡。

⁹ For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to shew himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him. Herein thou hast done foolishly: therefore from henceforth thou shalt have wars."

耶和華的眼目遍察全地,要顯大能幫助向他心存誠實的人。你這事行得愚昧;此後,你必有爭戰的事。

¹⁰Then Asa was wroth with the seer, and put him in a prison house; for he was in a rage with him because of this thing. And Asa oppressed some of the people the same time.

亞撒因此惱恨先見,將他囚在監裡。那時亞撒也虐待一些人民。

¹¹And, behold, the acts of Asa, first and last, lo, they are written in the book of the kings of Judah and Israel. 亞撒所行的事,自始至終都寫在猶大和以色列諸王記上。

亞撒作王三十九年,他腳上有病,而且甚重。病的時候沒有求耶和華,只求醫生。

他作王四十一年而死, 與他列祖同睡,

葬在大衛城自己所鑿的墳墓裡,放在床上,其床堆滿各樣馨香的香料,就是按做香的作法調和的香料, 又為他燒了許多的物件。

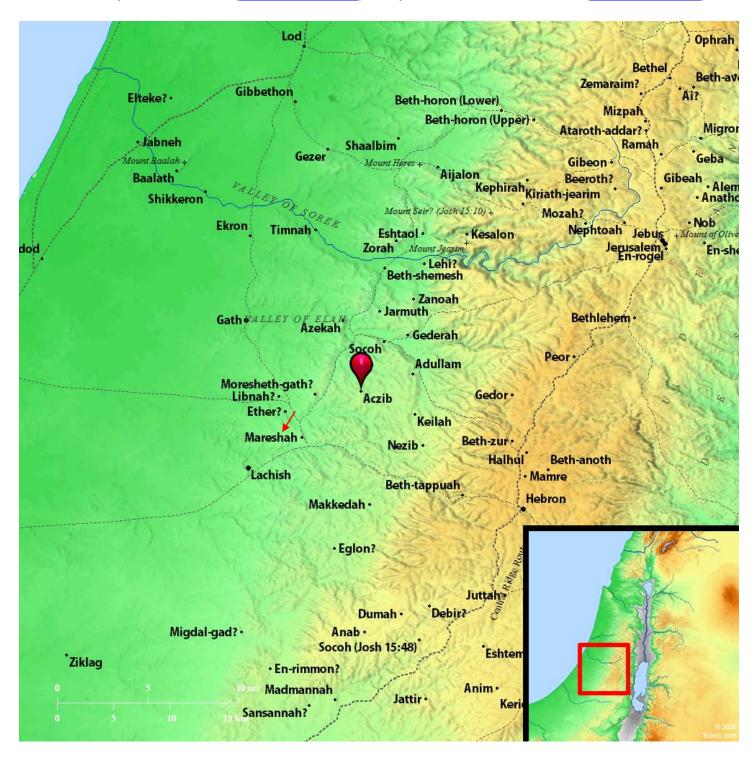
¹²And Asa in the thirty and ninth year of his reign was diseased in his feet, until his disease was exceeding great: yet in his disease he sought not to the LORD, but to the physicians.

¹³And Asa slept with his fathers, and died in the one and fortieth year of his reign.

¹⁴And they buried him in his own sepulchres, which he had made for himself in the city of David, and laid him in the bed which was filled with sweet odours and divers kinds of spices prepared by the apothecaries' (a pharmacist) art: and they made a very great burning for him.

MARESHAH 瑪利沙

- A town in the Shephelah of Judah named with Keilah and Achzib (Joshua 15:44).
- It occupied such a position that Rehoboam thought well to fortify it for the protection of Jerusalem (2 Chronicles 11:8).
- In the valley of Zephathah at Mareshah, Asa overwhelmed Zerah the Ethiopian and his army, pursuing them as far as Gezer (2 Chronicles 14:9).
- From Mareshah came Eliezer the prophet who denounced disaster upon the commercial copartnery of Jehoshaphat and Ahaziah (2 Chronicles 20:37). The place is mentioned in Micah (2 Chronicles 1:15).



Gerar 基拉耳

- A town in the Philistine plain South of Gaza (<u>Genesis 10:19</u>), where both Abraham and Isaac 'sojourned for a time, and where they came into contact with Abimelech, king of Gerar (Genesis 20 and 26, passim (here and there)).
- The town certainly existed in the Philistine period, for it is mentioned in connection with Asa, who
 defeated the Ethiopian host under Zerar and pursued them in their flight unto Gerar (2 Chronicles
 14:13).

