

Eyes on You

The Story of Jehoshaphat

Saul → David → Solomon →

Israel: Jeroboam I → Nadab → Baasha → Elah → Zimri → Omri → Ahab → Ahaziah

Judah: Rehoboam → Abijah/Abijam → Asa → Jehoshaphat

Jehoshaphat

- Started off strong
- Made a bad alliance with Ahab
- Had a battle with Ammonites, Moabites, Mount Seir
- Not all high places removed
- Made a bad alliance with Ahaziah
- Next king: Jehoram
- Asherah poles back with Joash

2 Chronicles 20:12 [Jehoshaphat prayed,] “Our God, will you not judge them? For we have no power to face this vast army that is attacking us. We do not know what to do, but our eyes are on you.” NIV

2 Chronicles 20:15-17 [The prophet] said: “Listen, King Jehoshaphat and all who live in Judah and Jerusalem! This is what the Lord says to you: ‘Do not be afraid or discouraged because of this vast army. For the battle is not yours, but God’s. ¹⁶ Tomorrow march down against them. They will be climbing up by the Pass of Ziz, and you will find them at the end of the gorge in the Desert of Jeruel. ¹⁷ You will not have to fight this battle. Take up your positions; stand firm and see the deliverance the Lord will give you, Judah and Jerusalem. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged. Go out to face them tomorrow, and the Lord will be with you.’”

2 Chronicles 20:20-23 Early in the morning they left for the Desert of Tekoa. As they set out, Jehoshaphat stood and said, “Listen to me, Judah and people of Jerusalem! Have faith in the Lord your God and you will be upheld; have faith in his prophets and you will be successful.” ²¹ After consulting the people, Jehoshaphat appointed men to sing to the Lord and to praise him for the splendor of his holiness as they went out at the head of the army, saying:

“Give thanks to the Lord,
for his love endures forever.”

²² As they began to sing and praise, the Lord set ambushes against the men of Ammon and Moab and Mount Seir who were invading Judah, and they were defeated. ²³ The Ammonites and Moabites rose up against the men from Mount Seir to destroy and annihilate them. After they finished slaughtering the men from Seir, they helped to destroy one another.

Security. People look for what benefits them.

Control: People manipulate circumstances to give them security.

Surrender: God wants us to look to him to meet all our needs.

Security

Safety (war)
Health
Wealth
Pleasure
Love
Religion

Control

Asa's Syrian alliance
Asa's feet
Bigger Barns Guy
Solomon
Woman at the Well
Athens Idolatry

Surrender

Asa and the Cushites / Jehoshaphat's eyes
Bleeding Woman
Two Mite Widow
Moses
Anna
Jesus the Way

Control:

2 Chronicles 16:2 Asa then took the silver and gold out of the treasures of the Lord's temple and of his own palace and sent it to Ben-Hadad king of Aram [Syria], who was ruling in Damascus. NIV

2 Chronicles 16:12 In the thirty-ninth year of his reign Asa was afflicted with a disease in his feet. Though his disease was severe, even in his illness he did not seek help from the Lord, but only from the physicians. NIV

Luke 12:20 "But God said to [the man who built bigger barns], 'You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?'" NIV

1 Kings 11:3 [Solomon] had seven hundred wives of royal birth and three hundred concubines, and his wives led him astray. NIV

John 4:18 [Jesus said to the Woman at the Well,] "The fact is, you have had five husbands, and the man you now have is not your husband. What you have just said is quite true." NIV

Acts 17:22-23 Paul then stood up in the meeting of the Areopagus and said: "People of Athens! I see that in every way you are very religious. ²³ For as I walked around and looked carefully at your objects of worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: TO AN UNKNOWN GOD. So you are ignorant of the very thing you worship—and this is what I am going to proclaim to you. NIV

Security:

2 Chronicles 14:11 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." NIV

Matthew 9:21 [The woman who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years] said to herself, "If I only touch his cloak, I will be healed." NIV

Mark 12:43-44 Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. ⁴⁴ They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything—all she had to live on." NIV

Hebrews 11:25 [Moses] chose to be mistreated along with the people of God rather than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. NIV

Luke 2:36-37 There was also a prophet, Anna, the daughter of Penuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was very old; she had lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, ³⁷ and then was a widow until she was eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped night and day, fasting and praying. NIV

John 14:2 [Jesus said,] "My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. ⁴ You know the way to the place where I am going."

⁵ Thomas said to him, "Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?"

⁶ Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." NIV

Psalms 121 I lift up my eyes to the mountains—where does my help come from? ² My help comes from the LORD, the Maker of heaven and earth. ³ He will not let your foot slip—he who watches over you will not slumber; ⁴ indeed, he who watches over Israel will neither slumber nor sleep. ⁵ The LORD watches over you—the LORD is your shade at your right hand; ⁶ the sun will not harm you by day, nor the moon by night. ⁷ The LORD will keep you from all harm—he will watch over your life; ⁸ the LORD will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore. NIV