

God's Calling Requirements
Part 38
From The Life Of King Asa

"1 So 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. 2 And Asa did that which was good and right in the eyes of the LORD his God: 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: 4 And commanded Judah to seek the LORD God of their fathers, and to do the law and the commandment. 5 Also he took away out of all the cities of Judah the high places and the images: and the kingdom was quiet before him. 6 And 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. 7 Therefore he 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. 8 And Asa had an army of men that bare targets 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. 9 And there came out against them Zerah the Ethiopian with an host of a thousand thousand, and three hundred chariots; and came unto Mareshah. 10 Then Asa went out against him, and they set the battle in array in the valley of Zephathah at Mareshah. 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 not man prevail against thee. 12 So 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: 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. 14 And 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. 15 They smote also the tents of cattle, and carried away sheep and camels in abundance, and returned to Jerusalem." (2 Chronicles 14:1-15 KJV)

King Asa was one of the good kings that rule over Judah. *"9 And in the twentieth year of Jeroboam king of Israel reigned Asa over Judah. 10 And forty and one years reigned he in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Maachah, the daughter of Abishalom."* (1 Kings 15:9-10 KJV) 2 And Asa did that which was good and right in the eyes of the LORD his God: He did the following good things:-

- 1- 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: He removed the wrong ways of worship and the wrong practices of life.
- 2- 5 Also he took away out of all the cities of Judah the high places and the images: and the kingdom was quiet before him. The high places are collateral places that the people were prohibited to worship God in them. They were having a centralized form of worship where they need to do inside the temple of God in Jerusalem under the supervision of the priest and not in other places. But the people were going to the high places where they can do their own and what they like without the scrutinization of

the priests of the temple. On the high places they spent and they put their treasures in these collateral places, and on things that are not of the will of God.

- 3- 4 And commanded Judah to seek the LORD God of their fathers, and to do the law and the commandment. King Asa commanded the people to seek God and to do His commandments.
- 4- 6 And 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. 7 Therefore he 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. King Asa was good steward by using wisely the time of peace and the good resources that God had given to him to build fenced cities.
- 5- 8 And Asa had an army of men that bare targets 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. King Asa prepared and trained people and workers for the warfare. He was ready when the enemy attacked.
- 6- 9 And there came out against them Zerah the Ethiopian with an host of a thousand thousand, and three hundred chariots; and came unto Mareshah. 10 Then Asa went out against him, and they set the battle in array in the valley of Zephathah at Mareshah. King Asa was courageous in facing the coming challenge of the enemy. The meaning of the word *Zerah* is rising. King Asa was courageous in facing the rising enemy against Him.
- 7- 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 not man prevail against thee. King Asa cried to God when he faced the rising enemy.
- 8- 12 So the LORD smote the Ethiopians before Asa, and before Judah; and the Ethiopians fled. King Asa trusted God that He can help him to defeat the enemy.
- 9- 13 And Asa and the people that were with him pursued them unto Gerar: 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. 14 And 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. 15 They smote also the tents of cattle, and carried away sheep and camels in abundance, and returned to Jerusalem. King Asa and the people with him gathered the plunder that the Lord had given to them.

"1 And the Spirit of God came upon Azariah the son of Oded: 2 And he 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. 3 Now for a long season Israel hath been without the true God, and without a teaching priest, and without law. 4 But when they in their trouble did turn unto the LORD God of Israel, and sought him, he was found of them. 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. 6 And nation was destroyed of nation, and city of city: for God did vex them with all adversity. 7 Be ye strong therefore, and let not your hands be weak: for

your work shall be rewarded. 8 And when Asa heard these words, and the prophecy 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. 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. 10 So they gathered themselves together at Jerusalem in the third month, in the fifteenth year of the reign of Asa. 11 And they offered unto the LORD the same time, of the spoil which they had brought, seven hundred oxen and seven thousand sheep. 12 And they entered into a covenant to seek the LORD God of their fathers with all their heart and with all their soul; 13 That whosoever would not seek the LORD God of Israel should be put to death, whether small or great, whether man or woman. 14 And they swear unto the LORD with a loud voice, and with shouting, and with trumpets, and with cornets. 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. 16 And also concerning Maachah the mother 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. 17 But the high places were not taken away out of Israel: nevertheless the heart of Asa was perfect all his days. 18 And 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. 19 And there was no more war unto the five and thirtieth year of the reign of Asa.” (2 Chronicles 15: 1-19 KJV)*

10- *1 And the Spirit of God came upon Azariah the son of Oded: 2 And he 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.* King Asa listened to the instruction of Azariah. The meaning of Azariah is, “*Jehovah has helped.*” Azariah explained the whole situation to king Asa and he encouraged him to do what is right. The message of God that you receive and apply will help you in your life:-

- A- *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.* If you are with God then He is with you, but if you will leave Him, then He will leave you.
- B- *3 Now for a long season Israel hath been without the true God, and without a teaching priest, and without law.* If there is no one who is teaching and is disciplining the people with the word of God then God’s presence is not there in the mid of His people.
- C- *4 But when they in their trouble did turn unto the LORD God of Israel, and sought him, he was found of them.* If you chose to turn to God while you are in trouble and seek Him to draw near to Him, then you will be found by the Lord and He will help you.
- D- *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. 6 And nation was destroyed of nation, and city of city: for God did vex them with all adversity.* Troubles, trials and up roaring around you are all because of the sin and disobedience; these things will bring God’s wrath and anger on the people.

E- *7 Be ye strong therefore, and let not your hands be weak: for your work shall be rewarded.* But if you turn to God and start to seek Him, then your work will be rewarded by the Lord.

11- *8 And when Asa heard these words, and the prophecy 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.* When the Lord had given them great victory and plunder He would expect from them to be more obedience to Him. Therefore He sent His prophet to challenge them to draw near to God and to do His will in full. King Asa was encouraged more when he heard the encouraging message, and he further removed abominable idols out of all the land of Judah, Benjamin and the other cities from mount Ephraim that belonged to the tribes that had separated from Judah. King Asa did further the following things: “*12 And he took away the sodomites out of the land, and removed all the idols that his fathers had made. 13 And also Maachah his mother, even her he removed from being queen, because she had made an idol in a grove; and Asa destroyed her idol, and burnt it by the brook Kidron.*” (1 Kings 15:12-13 KJV)

A- *12 And he took away the sodomites out of the land,* The homosexual were present and tolerated by King Rehoboam, but King Asa, the grandson of King Rehoboam, removed them.

B- *and removed all the idols that his fathers had made.* He destroyed all the wrong practices and the idols of his fathers. He honoured God and did not give honour to his fathers who sinned against God.

C- *13 And also Maachah his mother, even her he removed from being queen, because she had made an idol in a grove; “16 And also concerning Maachah the mother 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.” (2 Chronicles 14:16 KJV)* He removed his mother from the position of queen, and not to be honoured, because she set up idol and grove. *and Asa destroyed her idol, and burnt it by the brook Kidron.* It reminded us with Jesus how He put aside His mother from being a queen when she wanted to interfere with His work and to do her will, “*1 And the third day there was a marriage in Cana of Galilee; and the mother of Jesus was there: 2 And both Jesus was called, and his disciples, to the marriage. 3 And when they wanted wine, the mother of Jesus saith unto him, They have no wine. 4 Jesus saith unto her, Woman, what have I to do with thee? mine hour is not yet come.*” (John 2:1-4 KJV) Certain time a very near people in your heart will try to interfere with you and hinder you to do God’s will by pushing their idols and agenda into your life stream. Therefore you need to be firm and strong with them and don’t allow them to put their agenda in your life. The encouraging message of the Word of God should inspire you to go forward to obey God more and to remove idols and wrong setup that belongs to the traditional and religious practices around you.

12- *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. 10 So they gathered themselves together at Jerusalem in the third month, in the fifteenth year*

of the reign of Asa. King Asa as he decided to obey and apply the message of God, the Lord brought new people around him, even from those divided tribes that went away from Judah at the time of the reign of king Rehoboam, **when they saw that the LORD his God was with King Asa.** God will let people to see that HE is with you when you fully obey Him and set your heart to serve HIM and in doing HIS will.

13- **11 And they offered unto the LORD the same time, of the spoil which they had brought, seven hundred oxen and seven thousand sheep. 12 And they entered into a covenant to seek the LORD God of their fathers with all their heart and with all their soul;** Through King Asa and His obedient the Lord brought revival in the life of His people; they offered to God and they entered into a covenant with HIM. Your obedience God will use to bring revival in the life of other people.

14- **13 That whosoever would not seek the LORD God of Israel should be put to death, whether small or great, whether man or woman. 14 And they swear unto the LORD with a loud voice, and with shouting, and with trumpets, and with cornets.** King Asa and the people with Him took a serious decision that those who are not willing to seek the Lord they will not be part of them. They trusted God that He will sustain them and care for all their needs. You do not be afraid if you give up people who are not willing to follow God. The Lord will keep you and sustain you, even with the little that is remaining around you.

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. 19 And there was no more war unto the five and thirtieth year of the reign of Asa.** King Asa and the people with him as they started to seek God and follow His will, the Lord gave them joy, peace and rest round about. As you love the Lord and draw near to him and motivate others to do the same, the Lord shall give you joy, peace and rest from your enemies.

16- **17 But the high places were not taken away out of Israel:** These high places King Asa was not able to remove because they were not under his territory, but they were under the tribes that had separated from Judah, **nevertheless the heart of Asa was perfect all his days.** Do your part well as much as you can and let your heart be perfect before the Lord. The Lord will not cause you to be accountable to the areas of the ministry that are out of your power and jurisdiction.

17- **18 And 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.** Through the life of King Asa the Lord restored all the treasures to His church. As you commit your life to serve the Lord in such a way God will restore the treasures that is ordained for His church

My dear and beloved: It is so impressive and clear the spiritual progression that King Asa had achieved for himself and for the life of the people of God who were with him, and how beautifully God imparted great victory, revival, sanctification, and people commitment to come back to God and to have covenant with Him. Apply the principle of this message in your life as you agree to pray.

My Prayer: *Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus, who died on the cross for my sins and rose from the death to give me eternal life. Lord thank you for your word that showed me sound principles in how to follow you and to do what is right in your sight. Lord I commit myself to put my trust fully on you, to remove idols, abominations and wrong practices in my*

life and in the life of the people who are around me and those who are under my care. Lord gives me courage and the boldness to do that and protect me from evil doers. Lord as you had brought people to support King Asa, Lord also bring faithful people to help me in the ministry that you entrusted to me. I thank you and praise you in Jesus name I pray, Amen.

For more spiritual enrichment please visit our website at:

www.churchofgoduae.com

Jesus christ



The Bread Of Life

Vol. 18

Issue 10

Share the message with a friend.