“Loyalty”

Our loyalty to the Lord is required at all times and for all things. It is displeasing to the Lord when we don’t seek him for all of our needs. Whatever, they may be. Let’s Get Into The Word!

**2 Chronicles 16:1-14 (NKJV) says this**, “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. See, I have sent you silver and gold; come, break your treaty with Baasha king of Israel, so that he will withdraw from me.” 4 So Ben-Hadad heeded King Asa, and sent the captains of his armies against the cities of Israel. They attacked Ijon, Dan, Abel Maim, and all the storage cities of Naphtali. 5 Now it happened, when Baasha heard it, that he stopped building Ramah and ceased his work. 6 Then King Asa took all Judah, and they carried away the stones and timber of Ramah, which Baasha had used for building; and with them he built Geba and Mizpah. **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.” 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.**

King Asa chose to call on man instead of calling on the Lord. To seek help from man instead of seeking help from the Lord. To rely and place his loyalty with man instead of relying and placing his loyalty with the Lord. This was very foolish and displeasing to the Lord. King Asa’s disregard of the Lord came with a cost King Asa didn’t like **(Everlasting War).** Instead of humbling himself to the Lord and admitting his transgression before the Lord. King Asa chose to show his anger toward the Lord by imprisoning the Seer Hanani. And oppressed many others because of his anger toward the Lord.

Therefore, let us show our faith and loyalty to the Lord. In our times of need by calling, seeking, and relying on the Lord for whatever it is we need. Amen!

11 Note that the acts of Asa, first and last, are indeed written in the book of the kings of Judah and Israel. **12 And in the thirty-ninth year of his reign, Asa became diseased in his feet, and his malady (disorder) 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. 14 They buried him in his own tomb, which he had made for himself in the City of David; and they laid him in the bed which was filled with spices and various ingredients prepared in a mixture of ointments. They made a very great burning for him.

You would have figured that King Asa would not make the same transgression twice. However, he did and chose not to call, seek, and rely on the Lord to heal him. The question then becomes what is going on in the soul of King Asa? The answer to this question is found in **Proverbs 16:18 (NKJV) which says this, “**18 Pride goes before destruction, And a haughty spirit before a fall.

King Asa had become prideful, which is the opposite of humility. Demonstrated a haughty spirit. Which means, blatantly and disdainfully proud : having or showing an attitude of superiority and contempt for people or things perceived to be inferior. Therefore, King Asa thought that his physicians care was superior to that of the Lord’s care. However, he was deadly wrong. Therefore, let King Asa’s choices and actions before the Lord. Be an example to us of what not to do. Amen!

**1 Peter 5:6-7 (NKJV) says this,** 6 Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time, 7 casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you.

This is what we are required to do in our times of need, whatever they may be. Therefore, always choose to call, seek, and rely on the Lord. This is what pleases the Lord and demonstrates our loyalty and faith to him. Amen!

I Love You, Be Blessed!

Pastor Jimmy