

ASA

A life lived backwards

2 Chronicles 14-16

QUESTION

How will we finish?

Why?

KINGLY SUCCESS?

**To walk in the way of their
father David**



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The palindromic

King of Judah

A man, a plan, a canal : Panama

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Started well...

Abijah died and was buried with his ancestors in the City of David. His son Asa became the next king. For ten years into Asa's reign the country was at peace. Asa was a good king. He did things right in God's eyes.

(2 Chr 14:1-2 The Message)

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Consolidated

Asa said to his people, "While we have the chance and the land is quiet, let's build a solid defence system, fortifying our cities with walls, towers, gates, and bars. We have this peaceful land because we sought God; he has given us rest from all troubles." So they built and enjoyed prosperity.

(2 Chr 14:7 The Message)

In a time of peace,
strengthen your
defences

Asa said to his people, "While we have the chance and the land is quiet, let's build a solid defence system..."

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Faith mathematics

Asa had an army of 300,000 Judeans, equipped with shields and spears, and another 280,000

Benjaminites who were shield bearers and archers.

They were all courageous warriors. Zerah the

Ethiopian went to war against Asa with an army of 1 million plus 300 chariots and got as far as Maresah.

Asa met him there and prepared to fight...

(2 Chr 14:8-10 The Message)

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Normal mathematics

300,000 + 280,000

is less than

1 000 000 + 300 chariots

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Faith mathematics

300,000 + 280,000 + The Lord
is greater than

1 000 000 + 300 chariots

In a time of
weakness, know
your strength

“O God, you aren't impressed by
numbers or intimidated by a show of
force...”

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Courageous response

Asa heard the prophecy of Azariah son of Obed, took a deep breath, then rolled up his sleeves, and went to work...

(2 Chr 15:8 The Message)

Respond to God's word in your life

**“And all Judah rejoiced...”
(2 Chr 15:15 NKJV)**

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Keep trusting...

Hanani the seer came to Asa king of Judah and said, "Because you went for help to the king of Aram and didn't ask God for help, you've lost a victory...God is always on the alert, constantly on the lookout for people who are totally committed to him. You were foolish to go for human help when you could have had God's help. Now you're in trouble—one round of war after another." At that, Asa lost his temper. Angry, he put Hanani in the stocks. At the same time Asa started abusing some of the people.

(2 Chr 16:7-9 The Message)

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Slippery slope...

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.

(2 Chr 16:12 NKJV)

In success, don't
forget where it
comes from!

**“See, I have sent you silver and gold”
(2 Chr 16:3 NKJV)**

Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us

Hebrews 12:1 NKJV