



Biblical Literacy

Scripture • Substance • Spiritual Passion

Lesson 44.2

Old Testament Survey: The Divided Monarchy, Judah - Part 2

Outline for Class

- Welcome
- Theme Today
Like his father Asa, Jehoshaphat is remembered in Scripture for his walk with the Lord. While Scripture notes that Jehoshaphat did "right," it certainly does not mean that all his decisions were good ones! For example, during the reign of Jehoshaphat, peace was finally struck with King Ahab and the Northern Kingdom, but apparently at some cost!
- Prayer for Commitment to His Word
- Video (36 minutes)
- Points for Home

Points for Home

- ❖ "We do not know what to do, but our eyes are on you" (2 Chron. 20:12).
All of us have faced it: the situation that seems to have no good ending. These are those times when things are beyond our control, and do not seem to have a good ending in store. We can take encouragement from the approach of Jehoshaphat, the king with a heart for God. He knew at those times where to turn. His plea can and should be ours. "We do not know what to do, but our eyes are on you!" The response he got is the gravamen of our faith: "Do not be afraid and do not be dismayed...for the battle is not yours but God's" (2 Chron. 20:15). Amen Lord!
- ❖ "Now Jehoshaphat had great riches and honor, and he made a marriage alliance with Ahab." (2 Chron. 18:1). How terrible was that choice! What do you look for in the spouses of your children, your grandchildren, or even yourself? My constant prayer for my children is that they will have a spouse who brings out the best in them. First and foremost, I want them to find someone who brings out their best before God. This is my prayer and what I look for as I eyeball those young men courting my daughters, or the young women eyeing my son! On a more personal level, what kind of spouse am I? Am I one who brings out the best in my wonderful wife? Let us commit anew to our spouses (even if it is a future spouse) and to our prayers for spouses of those we love. "Lord, may you give me wisdom and the Spirit's fruit to be a spouse that leads my wife to you, and may my children each find the right person who brings out the best in their growth and service to you and in this world!"
- ❖ "...because Jehoiada the priest instructed him" (2 Kings. 12:2).
Is there any reason to read Scripture? Is there any reason to attend real teachings of Scripture? Is there any reason to have godly counselors and friends? Is there any reason to marry inside the faith? These stories and the Prophet Historian shout, "ABSOLUTELY!" If we fail to see how easy it is to stray from ungodly advice and friends, from ungodly spouses, and from lack of regular study in the ways of God, we are fooling ourselves. It is not that Joash was a religious slouch. There but for the grace of God go most of us! So let's make a commitment in this point for home. Let us commit to regular study of the word, to fostering friends who hold us accountable to the Lord, and to daily personal prayer and time before the Lord.

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