

Stagnant Faith Equals A Hardened Heart

Dr James Marocco
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2 Chronicles 16:1-14

2 Chronicles 16:1 NIV

In the thirty-sixth year of Asa's reign Baasha king of Israel went up against Judah and fortified Ramah to prevent anyone from leaving or entering the territory of Asa king of Judah.

2 Chronicles 16:2 NIV

Asa then took the silver and gold out of the treasuries of the LORD's temple and of his own palace and sent it to Ben-Hadad king of Aram, who was ruling in Damascus.

2 Chronicles 16:3 NIV

"Let there be a treaty between me and you," he said, "as there was between my father and your father. See, I am sending you silver and gold. Now break your treaty with Baasha king of Israel so that he will withdraw from me."

2 Chronicles 16:4 NIV

Ben-Hadad agreed with King Asa and sent the commanders of his forces against the towns of Israel. They conquered Ijon, Dan, Abel Maim and all the store cities of Naphtali.

2 Chronicles 16:5 NIV

When Baasha heard this, he stopped building Ramah and abandoned his work.

2 Chronicles 16:6 NIV

Then King Asa brought all the men of Judah, and they carried away from Ramah the stones and timber Baasha had been using. With them he built up Geba and Mizpah.

2 Chronicles 16:7 NIV

**At that time Hanani the seer came to Asa king of Judah and said to him:
"Because you relied on the king of Aram and not on the LORD your God, the army of the king of Aram has escaped from your hand.**

2 Chronicles 16:8 NIV

Were not the Cushites and Libyans a mighty army with great numbers of chariots and horsemen? Yet when you relied on the LORD, he delivered them into your hand.

2 Chronicles 16:9 NIV

For the eyes of the LORD range throughout the earth to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him. You have done a foolish thing, and from now on you will be at war."

2 Chronicles 16:10 NIV

Asa was angry with the seer because of this; he was so enraged that he put him in prison. At the same time Asa brutally oppressed some of the people.

2 Chronicles 16:11 NIV

The events of Asa's reign, from beginning to end, are written in the book of the kings of Judah and Israel.

2 Chronicles 16:12 NIV

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.

2 Chronicles 16:13 NIV

**Then in the forty-first year
of his reign Asa died and
rested with his fathers.**

2 Chronicles 16:14 NIV

They buried him in the tomb that he had cut out for himself in the City of David. They laid him on a bier covered with spices and various blended perfumes, and they made a huge fire in his honour.

Hebrews 11:6

But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

**We have to
watch our
attitude
toward God**

Matthew 7:21

Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.

**We can lose
our sight of
the will of
God**

**We don't
participate in
worship at
church like we
should**

**We must not
allow our
comfort to be a
stumbling block**

**When we are
comfortable
anything can
be offensive**

**We must stay
active in faith
to be ready to
take on the
next fight**

**We must
continue to
set goal and
believe God**

Matthew 7:11

If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him!

**God is calling
us to walk by
faith all the
length of our
lives**

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