

2 Chronicles 13:1-22 **Abijah King of Judah – Trusted Yahweh in war against Jeroboam king of Israel**

Abijah Reigns in Judah (1 Kings 15:1-8)

1 In the eighteenth year of King Jeroboam, Abijah became king over Judah.

2 He reigned **three years in Jerusalem**. His mother's name was Michaiah the daughter of Uriel of Gibeah.

And there was war between Abijah and Jeroboam.

3 Abijah set the battle in order with an army of valiant warriors, four hundred thousand choice men. Jeroboam also drew up in battle formation against him with eight hundred thousand choice men, mighty men of valor.

4 Then Abijah stood on Mount Zemaraim, which is in the mountains of Ephraim, and said, "Hear me, Jeroboam and all Israel:

5 Should you not know that Yahweh Elohey Yisrael (the Lord God of Israel) gave the dominion over Israel to David forever, to him and his sons, by a covenant of salt?

6 Yet Jeroboam the son of Nebat, the servant of Solomon the son of David, rose up and rebelled against his lord.

7 Then worthless rogues gathered to him, and strengthened themselves against Rehoboam the son of Solomon, when Rehoboam was young and inexperienced and could not withstand them.

8 And now you think to withstand the kingdom of Yahweh (the Lord), which is in the hand of the sons of David; and you are a great multitude, and with you are the gold calves which Jeroboam made for you as gods.

9 Have you not cast out the priests of Yahweh (the Lord), the sons of Aaron, and the Levites, and made for yourselves priests, like the peoples of other lands, so that whoever comes to consecrate himself with a young bull and seven rams may be a priest of things that are not gods?

10 But as for us, Yahweh Eloheynu (the Lord is our God), and we have not forsaken Him; and the priests who minister to Yahweh (the Lord) are the sons of Aaron, and the Levites attend to their duties.

11 And they burn to Yahweh (the Lord) every morning and every evening burnt sacrifices and sweet incense; they also set the showbread in order on the pure gold table, and the lampstand of gold with its lamps to burn every evening; for we keep the command of Yahweh Eloheynu (the Lord our God), but you have forsaken Him.

12 Now look, Elohiym (God) Himself is with us as our head, and His priests with sounding trumpets to sound the alarm against you. O children of Israel, do not fight against Yahweh Elohiym (the Lord God) of your fathers, for you shall not prosper!"

13 But Jeroboam caused an ambush to go around behind them; so they were in front of Judah, and the ambush was behind them.

14 And when Judah looked around, to their surprise the battle line was at both front and rear; and they cried out to Yahweh (the Lord), and the priests sounded the trumpets.

15 Then the men of Judah gave a shout; and as the men of Judah shouted, it happened that Elohiym (God) struck Jeroboam and all Israel before Abijah and Judah.

16 And the children of Israel fled before Judah, and Elohiym (God) delivered them into their hand.

17 Then Abijah and his people struck them with a great slaughter; so five hundred thousand choice men of Israel fell slain.

18 Thus the children of Israel were subdued at that time; and the children of Judah prevailed, because they relied on Yahweh Elohey (the Lord God) of their fathers.

19 And Abijah pursued Jeroboam and took cities from him: Bethel with its villages, Jeshanah with its villages, and Ephraim with its villages.

20 So Jeroboam did not recover strength again in the days of Abijah; and Yahweh (the Lord) struck him, and he died.

21 But Abijah grew mighty, married fourteen wives, and begot twenty-two sons and sixteen daughters.

22 Now the rest of the acts of Abijah, his ways, and his sayings are written in the annals of the prophet Iddo.

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Facts Revealed:

Abijah Reigns in Judah (1 Kings 15:1-8 his name is Abijah) [2 Chronicles 13:1-22]

- ✧ The account in 1 Kings 15:1-8 Abijah walked in all the sins of his father Rehoboam and his heart was not loyal to Yahweh. Nevertheless for David's sake Yahweh gave David a lamp in Jerusalem by setting up his son after him and by establishing Jerusalem.
- ✧ The account in 2 Chronicles 13:1-22 his name is Abijah and it is not recorded that he walked with Yahweh, but only that in this particular battle with Jeroboam he acknowledged Yahweh while facing an exceedingly large army and Yahweh delivered Jeroboam and Israel with him into the hands of Abijah and Judah.
- ✧ Abijah recounted the difference between the Northern kingdom in idolatry as compared with the Southern kingdom which still recognized Yahweh, and the men of Judah cried out to Yahweh..