

2 Chronicles 15:1-19 **Asa encouraged by Prophetic Message**

Yahweh sent a prophet to Asa

1 Now the Spirit of Elohiym (God) came upon Azariah the son of Oded.

2 And he went out to meet Asa, and said to him: "Hear me, Asa, and all Judah and Benjamin. Yahweh (The Lord) is with you while you are with Him. If you seek Him, He will be found by you; but if you forsake Him, He will forsake you.

History of Israel and their relationship with God – Command to be strong

3 For a long time Israel has been without the true Elohey (God), without a teaching priest, and without law;

4 but when in their trouble they turned to Yahweh Elohey Yisrael (the Lord God of Israel), and sought Him, He was found by them.

5 And in those times there was no peace to the one who went out, nor to the one who came in, but great turmoil was on all the inhabitants of the lands.

6 So nation was destroyed by nation, and city by city, for Elohiym (God) troubled them with every adversity.

7 But you, be strong and do not let your hands be weak, for your work shall be rewarded!"

Response to the prophetic message by Asa and the people under his leadership

8 And when Asa heard these words and the prophecy of Oded the prophet, he took courage, and removed the abominable idols from all the land of Judah and Benjamin and from the cities which he had taken in the mountains of Ephraim; and he restored the altar of Yahweh (the Lord) that was before the vestibule of Yahweh (the Lord).

9 Then he gathered all Judah and Benjamin, and those who dwelt with them from Ephraim, Manasseh, and Simeon, for they came over to him in great numbers from Israel when they saw that Yahweh Elohay (the Lord his God) was with him.

10 So they gathered together at Jerusalem in the third month, in the fifteenth year of the reign of Asa.

11 And they offered to Yahweh (the Lord) at that time seven hundred bulls and seven thousand sheep from the spoil they had brought.

12 Then they entered into a covenant to seek Yahweh Elohey (the Lord God) of their fathers with all their heart and with all their soul;

13 and whoever would not seek Yahweh Elohey Yisrael (the Lord God of Israel) was to be put to death, whether small or great, whether man or woman.

14 Then they took an oath before Yahweh (the Lord) with a loud voice, with shouting and trumpets and rams' horns.

15 And all Judah rejoiced at the oath, for they had sworn with all their heart and sought Him with all their soul; and He was found by them, and Yahweh (the Lord) gave them rest all around.

16 Also he removed Maachah, the mother of Asa the king, from being queen mother, because she had made an obscene image of Asherah; and Asa cut down her obscene image, then crushed and burned it by the Brook Kidron.

17 But the high places were not removed from Israel. Nevertheless the heart of Asa was loyal all his days.

18 He also brought into the house of Elohiym (God) the things that his father had dedicated and that he himself had dedicated: silver and gold and utensils.

19 And there was no war until the thirty-fifth year of the reign of Asa.

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Facts Revealed:

Yahweh sent a prophet to Asa [2 Chronicles 15:1-7]

- ✧ Now the Spirit of Elohiym (God) came upon Azariah the son of Oded. And he went out to meet Asa, and said to him: "Hear me, Asa, and all Judah and Benjamin.

Yahweh (The Lord) is with you while you are with Him. If you seek Him, He will be found by you; but if you forsake Him, He will forsake you. [2 Chronicles 15:1-2]

- ✧ The message is a true law of God encouraging men to seek Yahweh, because if they do, He will reveal Himself to the earnest seeker, but He will forsake those who forsake Him.

History of Israel and their relationship with God [2 Chronicles 15:3-7]

- ✧ When Israel was without God, a teaching priest, and the law, there was no peace, but only turmoil on all the inhabitants of the land. Nation was destroyed by nation and city by city, for Elohiym troubled them with every adversity.
- ✧ When in their trouble they turned to Yahweh and sought Him, He was found by them.
- ✧ Asa was encouraged to stay strong to receive the reward.

Response to the prophetic message by Asa and the people under his leadership [2 Chronicles 15:8-19]

- ✧ The overview of Asa's reign in 2 Chronicles 14:1-15 indicated that Asa had purged all idolatry from Judah including the high places.
- ✧ Chapter 15 fills in more detail beginning in the fifteenth year of his reign extending to all the cities under his leadership in Judah, Benjamin, and Ephraim which he had taken from Israel the Northern kingdom under Jeroboam.
- ✧ After his victory over the Ethiopians, [2 Chronicles 14:9-15] a great many more had come to him from Ephraim, Manasseh, and Simeon when they saw that Yahweh was with him. [2 Chronicles 15:8]
- ✧ Hearing the words of the prophesy, Asa was encouraged and removed the abominable idols from all the land of Judah, Benjamin. And from the cities he had taken from Israel in the mountains of Ephraim. [2 Chronicles 15:8]
- ✧ He restored the altar of Yahweh which was before the vestibule of Yahweh. [2 Chronicles 15:8]
- ✧ Asa gathered together all Judah and Benjamin including those who had come from Ephraim, Manasseh, and Simeon at Jerusalem in the third month of the fifteenth year of his reign. [2 Chronicles 15:9-10]
- ✧ From the spoils they had brought back after the defeat of the Ethiopians, they offered to Yahweh 700 bulls and 7,000 sheep. [2 Chronicles 15:11]
- ✧ They entered into a covenant to seek Yahweh with all their heart and soul, and all Judah rejoiced at the oath they had sworn with all their heart and soul. [2 Chronicles 15:12-15]
- ✧ Yahweh was found by them and gave them rest all around. [2 Chronicles 15:15]
- ✧ Asa removed Maachah, the mother of Asa the king, from being queen mother, because she had made an obscene image of Asherah; and Asa cut down her obscene image, then crushed and burned it by the Brook Kidron. [2 Chronicles 15:16]
- ✧ The high places were not removed from Israel the Northern kingdom. [2 Chronicles 15:17]
- ✧ Asa's heart was loyal all his days. [2 Chronicles 15:17]
- ✧ Asa also brought into the house of Elohiym (God) the things that his father had dedicated and that he himself had dedicated: silver and gold and utensils. [2 Chronicles 15:18]

✧ And there was no war until the thirty-fifth year of the reign of Asa. [\[2 Chronicles 15:19\]](#)