

2 Chronicles 16:1-14 **Asa made a disastrous treaty with Syria**

Asa's Treaty with Syria (1 Kings 15:16-22)

1 In the thirty-sixth year of the reign of Asa, Baasha king of Israel came up against Judah and built Ramah, that he might let none go out or come in to Asa king of Judah.

2 Then Asa brought silver and gold from the treasuries of Beit Yahweh (the house of the Lord) and of the king's house, and sent to Ben-Hadad king of Syria, who dwelt in Damascus, saying,

3 "Let there be a treaty between you and me, as there was between my father and your father. See, I have sent you silver and gold; come, break your treaty with Baasha king of Israel, so that he will withdraw from me."

4 So Ben-Hadad heeded King Asa, and sent the captains of his armies against the cities of Israel. They attacked Ijon, Dan, Abel Maim, and all the storage cities of Naphtali.

5 Now it happened, when Baasha heard it, that he stopped building Ramah and ceased his work.

6 Then King Asa took all Judah, and they carried away the stones and timber of Ramah, which Baasha had used for building; and with them he built Geba and Mizpah.

Hanani's Message to Asa

7 And at that time Hanani the seer came to Asa king of Judah, and said to him: "Because you have relied on the king of Syria, and have not relied on Yahweh Eloheyka (the Lord your God), therefore the army of the king of Syria has escaped from your hand.

8 Were the Ethiopians and the Lubim not a huge army with very many chariots and horsemen? Yet, because you relied on Yahweh (the Lord), He delivered them into your hand.

9 For the eyes of Yahweh (the Lord) run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show Himself strong on behalf of those whose heart is loyal to Him. In this you have done foolishly; therefore from now on you shall have wars."

10 Then Asa was angry with the seer, and put him in prison, for he was enraged at him because of this. And Asa oppressed some of the people at that time.

Illness and Death of Asa (1 Kings 15:23,24)

11 Note that the acts of Asa, first and last, are indeed written in the book of the kings of Judah and Israel.

12 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 Yahweh (**the Lord**), but the physicians.

13 So Asa rested with his fathers; he died in the forty-first year of his reign.

14 They buried him in his own tomb, which he had made for himself in the City of David; and they laid him in the bed which was filled with spices and various ingredients prepared in a mixture of ointments. They made a very great burning for him.

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Facts Revealed

Asa's Treaty with Syria (1 Kings 15:16-22)

- ✧ Baasha king of Israel came and built Ramah laying siege to Jerusalem so none could go out or come in to Asa king of Judah. [2 Chronicles 16:1]

- ✧ Asa brought the silver and gold from the treasuries of Beit Yahweh and the king's house and sent it to Ben-Hadad king of Syria in Damascus seeking to break the treaty between Ben-Hadad and Baasha king of Israel so the siege of Jerusalem might be removed. [2 Chronicles 16:2-3]
- ✧ Ben-Hadad accepted the bribe and attacked the cities of Israel. [2 Chronicles 16:4]
- ✧ Baasha heard about it and withdrew from Ramah. [2 Chronicles 16:5]
- ✧ Asa and all Judah took the building material from Ramah and built Geba and Mizpah. [2 Chronicles 16:6]

Hanani's Message to Asa

- ✧ Yahweh sent Hanani the seer to Asa and said, "Because you have relied on the king of Syria, and have not relied on Yahweh Eloheyka (the Lord your God), therefore the army of the king of Syria has escaped from your hand. [2 Chronicles 16:7]
- ✧ Victory over the Ethiopians and Lubim with their million man army and chariots depending on Yahweh should have been enough for Asa to realize that Yahweh can save them and they need not turn to foreign nations for help. [2 Chronicles 16:8, (14:9-15)]
- ✧ The eyes of Yahweh (the Lord) run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show Himself strong on behalf of those whose heart is loyal to Him. [2 Chronicles 16:9, Revelation 5:6]
- ✧ Seeking help from Syria was foolish, so from now you shall have wars. [2 Chronicles 16:9]
- ✧ Asa was angry at the seer because of this message, and put him in prison and oppressed some of the people. (It is so easy to attack the messenger when displeased with a message from God). [2 Chronicles 16:10]

Illness and Death of Asa (1 Kings 15:23,24) [2 Chronicles 16:11-14]

- ✧ The acts of Asa, first and last, are indeed written in the book of the kings of Judah and Israel.
- ✧ 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 Yahweh (**the Lord**), but the physicians.
- ✧ Asa rested with his fathers; he died in the forty-first year of his reign.
- ✧ They buried him in his own tomb, which he had made for himself in the City of David; and they laid him in the bed which was filled with spices and various ingredients prepared in a mixture of ointments. They made a very great burning for him.