

2 Chronicles 10-16

Division and Decline

Study written by Holli Worthington

Day 1- 2 Chronicles 10-16

Read 2 Chronicles 10-16 in your Bible.

- Pray as you read, asking the Holy Spirit to guide you in understanding, confession, thanksgiving, and petition in light of the truth you are reading.
- Underline/highlight key words, phrases, and verses that stand out to you.

Day 2- 2 Chronicles 9:31-10:19

In this chapter we see the division of the kingdom of Israel. The northern kingdom, known as Israel was comprised of 10 tribes. The southern kingdom was known as Judah and included the tribes of Judah and Benjamin. The chronicler focuses on the southern kingdom because the tribe of Judah is the line of King David, which leads to Jesus.

1. What was the condition the people put forth if they were to serve Rehoboam?

Digging Deeper: What had God warned the people about when they demanded to have a king like the other nations? 1 Samuel 8:10-18

2. What foolish decision did Rehoboam make? What was the result?

3. How does verse 15 display God's sovereignty worked out even in the midst of sinful choices?

4. Read 1 Kings 11:9-13, 26-39. What was the reason God was making Jeroboam king of the northern kingdom of Israel?



It brings great security to know, that even in the midst of the chaos of our world, God is working out all of history to his redemptive purposes just as we see him doing in the life of his people as the unified kingdom crumbles. As we watch our country leave behind its Christian foundation we can be assured that God is still working out his purposes in the midst of sinful choices, though certainly there are hard times to come as a consequence of the sinful choices made in our culture.

- Stop now and thank God for his sovereignty over all of history and ask him to help you to set your heart to trust and obey him and find all your security in him.

Day 3- 2 Chronicles 11 and 12

5. Why did the priests leave the northern kingdom of Israel according to 11:13-15?

6. What characterized those who followed the priest's example in verse 16?

7. What does 12:1 imply is the reason Rehoboam abandoned the law of the LORD after 3 years of following God? Why do you think this is true?

8. Why did the LORD relent from a harsher judgment of Judah according to 12:6-7?

Scholar's Note: " 'Humbled himself' means to forsake one's pride and yield in self-denying loyalty to God. " –NIV Application Commentary

9. Sometimes God uses severe mercy in the life of his people to turn them back from their destructive ways. We don't always recognize God's discipline as true mercy because it is also hard and painful, but it is merciful because it turns us back to God. What do you see in 12:8 is God's purpose in not delivering the people of Judah completely? How have you ever experienced God's severe mercy?

10. How was Rehoboam's reign characterized at the end of his life in verse 14?



Rehoboam had periods in his life where he turned back from his own way and followed God, but at the end of Rehoboam's reign he was characterized as an evil king. The final assessment was that he did not set his heart to seek the LORD.

- How does this impact you? How will you "set your heart" each day to seek the LORD?

Day 4- 2 Chronicles 13 and 14

11. In chapter 13, how did Abijah and the people demonstrate faith and trust in God when the odds were stacked against them?

12. Why did the men of Judah prevail against overwhelming odds according to 13:18?

Scholar's Note: "The word "rely" means to lean on something or someone in the sense of trust." – NIV Application Commentary

For Discussion: What is God's purpose in displaying his strength in human weakness? (See 1 Corinthians 1:26-30) What other examples of this principle can you think of in the Bible?

13. In 14:1-8 how did Asa exhibit faithful leadership and what were the results?

14. What are the elements of Asa's prayer in 14:11?

Day 5- 2 Chronicles 15 and 16

15. What does God require of his nation, spoken through the prophet Azariah in 15:2?

Scholar's Note: "The spiritual truth here is basic, namely, that God is present and powerful in defense of His obedient people." - John MacArthur

16. How did Asa respond to the prophecy of Azariah? What were some of

extreme measures that he took? What were the results of his commitment according to 15:15?

17. Why did Asa experience God's judgment despite his military victory according to 16:7-12?

Digging Deeper: Look up Isaiah 31:1 and Jeremiah 17:5. What do these warnings communicate is of the utmost importance to God?



Isn't it incredible that the Creator and King over all wants us to come to him for help, and rely on him for everything we need, for every problem we encounter, for every struggle we face, for every sin we commit. And not only does he want us to come to him, but he is equipped with the wisdom, power, omniscience and love to help us in the best possible way.

Sadly, we don't treat God the way he deserves to be treated, we forget who he is and what he has done and we rely on our own strategizing, controlling and fretting to get by. But the more we cultivate a high view of God, the less likely we will be to rely on ourselves. As we see God for who he really is we will grow in our trust of him.

- List as many attributes of God as you can.

- Meditate on this list throughout the day, asking God to imprint these truths about him on your heart and mind.

18. How is Asa's heart exposed in 16:10?



Even though overall, Asa was considered to be a faithful king, he did not end well. When confronted with his sin, instead of humbling himself, he became angry and vengeful. He ended his life stubbornly clinging to his pride instead of seeking the LORD for help and forgiveness.

- How do you usually respond when confronted with your sin by the Holy Spirit, someone close to you or even someone you don't know well?

One Thing: Look back over this week's study. Pick one thing that God impressed on you, convicted you about, or something new that you learned and write it here.

How will knowing this impact the way you think and act?

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