

FINAL STUDY NOTES – 2 Chronicles Chapters 17-19 8/17-18/2026

CLASSROOM LOCATION AND ZOOM – SIGN IN INFORMATION:

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NOTE WE WILL CONTINUE TO NEED A PASSCODE TO JOIN THE ONLINE (ZOOM) STUDY!

MONDAY 7 PM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 PM PACIFIC DAYLIGHT SAVINGS Time (US and Canada)
THE MONDAY NIGHT STUDY WILL BE MEETING ON ZOOM ONLY UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE!
MEETING ID - 878 5864 4763 Passcode: 087484

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TUESDAY 7 AM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 AM PACIFIC DAYLIGHT SAVINGS Time (US and Canada).
TUES MORNING MTG PLACE: 1201 KEY WEST, CORONA DEL MAR (shown as 1201 KW, Corona del Mar, CA 92625) on Global Positioning System (GPS) in automobiles. For driving directions, suggest using (waze.com/live map) or *MapQuest* (mapquest.com), **AS WELL AS CONTINUING IN ZOOM!**
MEETING ID# - 853 0915 0746 - Passcode: 715340

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OPENING PRAYER

LAST WEEK: *2 Chronicles Chapter 13* – Abijah Reigns in Judah. *Chapter 14* – Asa Reigns in Judah. *Chapter 15* – The Reforms of Asa. *Chapter 16* – Asa's Treaty with Syria.

THIS WEEK: *2 Chronicles Chapter 17* – Jehoshaphat Reigns in Judah– (vs. 1-19). *Chapter 18* – Micaiah Warns Ahab – (vs. 1-27); Ahab Dies in Battle – (vs. 28-34; 19; 1-3). *Chapter 19* – The Reforms of Jehoshaphat – (vs. 4-11).

Jehoshaphat Reigns in Judah

2Ch 17:1-2 Then Jehoshaphat his son reigned in his place, and strengthened himself against Israel. [2] And he placed troops in all the fortified cities of Judah, and set garrisons in the land of Judah and in the cities of Ephraim which Asa his father had taken.

- **The ascension of Jehoshaphat, son of Asa, as the king** in chapter seventeen.
- **He strengthens himself against Israel.** The Holy Spirit takes note of that in the beginning and puts it before us because it is going to be such a huge contrast to the first verse of the next chapter. Israel has a wicked king at this time named Ahab who had an even more wicked, Baal-worshipping wife named Jezebel. That carries in it its own inferences.

2Ch 17:3 Now the LORD was with Jehoshaphat, because he walked in the former ways of his father David; he did not seek the Baals,

- **He walked in the former ways.** Asa did in the beginning. He went back to those first ways.
- **Jeremiah said, (Jer 6:16) Thus says the LORD: "Stand in the ways and see, and ask for the old paths, where the good way is, and walk in it; Then you will find rest for your souls. But they said, 'We will not walk in it.'** "Stand in the ways and see." In other words, stop, look! Look at your life, evaluate. Jehoshaphat evidently was a keen and astute observer of his father. He went back to the first ways of his father, in walking with the LORD and *did not seek the Baals*, the gods of the Canaanites.

- **Jehoshaphat was a very good king.** His father also was by and large a very good king. He enlarges upon the foundation that his father had laid in his life related to the things of the LORD. Always outgrow your parents, always outgrow your grandparents' relationship with the LORD. When your heritage is that kind of a heritage, there is no reason not to. He expands on this investment spiritually in his life. He did not seek the protection of fortified walls; he did not engage in idolatry, which still had a strong place in Judah despite Asa's great efforts.

2Ch 17:4 *but sought the God of his father, and walked in His commandments and not according to the acts of Israel.*

- **Jehoshaphat, even as a young man, was a man who obeyed God's word** in a context that was largely a context of disobedience to God's word. That is the world in which you and I live in, where we have to choose to live a life of obedience to the LORD in a national context of disobedience and the power and the abilities to do that. We make the choice in our own lives for whether we are going to do that or not. Jehoshaphat shows us that we can and he did it under an inferior covenant. We have the Spirit of God inside of our lives providing us with the will to do, the motivation to live a holy life and also the power to do that.

2Ch 17:5 *Therefore the LORD established the kingdom in his hand; and all Judah gave presents to Jehoshaphat, and he had riches and honor in abundance.*

- **“If you seek the LORD, He will be found of you.** The LORD is with you, while you are with Him.” So, it was!

2Ch 17:6 *And his heart took delight in the ways of the LORD; moreover he removed the high places and wooden images from Judah.*

- **His heart took delight in the ways of the LORD.** It was engaged in them; set upon them. He walked in them with great pleasure and cheerfulness, being inspired with zeal and courage. He was fearless, not regarding any opposition he might have in the work of reform.
- **Jehoshaphat's heart took delight in the ways of the LORD. How delighted is my heart in the ways of the LORD? Am I moved to respond in any way like Jehoshaphat did in obeying, walking with the LORD, removing the evil high places and images of idolatry and wickedness?**
- **Moreover, he took away the high places;** such as were dedicated to idols, but not those in which the true God was worshipped, **Wooden images from Judah,** where idols were placed. They had been removed by Asa, but had been renewed in the latter part of his days.

2Ch 17:7 *Also in the third year of his reign he sent his leaders (five), **Ben-Hail, Obadiah, Zechariah, Nethanel, and Michaiah, to teach in the cities of Judah.***

- The five leaders were not sent as teachers themselves, but had the duty committed to them of seeing that the people were taught. The actual teachers were the priests and Levites.

2Ch 17:8 *And with them he sent (nine) **Levites: Shemaiah, Nethaniah, Zebadiah, Asahel, Shemiramoth, Jehonathan, Adonijah, Tobijah, and Tobadonijah —the Levites; and with them Elishama and Jehoram, the priests.***

- We may presume that the princes instructed the people in the nature of the civil law and constitution of the kingdom; the Levites instructed them in everything pertaining to the temple service, and ritual law; and the priests instructed them in the nature and design of the religion they professed. Thus, the nation became thoroughly instructed in their duty to the LORD; to the king; and to each other. They became united so that no enemy could be successful.

2Ch 17:9 *So they taught in Judah, and had the Book of the Law of the LORD with them; they went throughout all the cities of Judah and taught the people.*

- **This is tremendous! Not only is Jehoshaphat walking with the LORD, getting rid of false gods, he is seeing the people are being taught** about God, that they might worship God in spirit and in truth; how to walk in the path of the LORD. It was a very wise and prudent move.
- **Jehoshaphat made three strategic moves, spiritually speaking:** (1) He obeyed the LORD; (2) He removed false worship from the land; and (3) He sent out teachers who taught the people the law of the LORD.

2Ch 17:10 *And the fear of the LORD fell on all the kingdoms of the lands that were around Judah, so that they did not make war against Jehoshaphat.*

He taught the people; they became strong in the things of the LORD. Thus, the nation's round them respected what they were, and what God had done. None of them would attack. He had peace as the result of this strong spiritual movement. Being spiritually fortified. “The LORD is with you, while you are with Him.” He followed this and experienced a period of peace.

- **The fear of the LORD fell on the enemies of Israel! Notice how the LORD responded to the spiritual strategies of the Godly reforms: Jehoshaphat's obedience; removing false worship; and teaching God's word! What a great example for us!**

2Ch 17:11-16 Also some of the Philistines (perennial enemy) brought Jehoshaphat presents and silver as tribute; and the Arabians brought him flocks, seven thousand seven hundred rams and seven thousand seven hundred male goats. [12] So Jehoshaphat became increasingly powerful, and he built fortresses and storage cities in Judah. [13] He had much property in the cities of Judah; and the men of war, mighty men of valor, were in Jerusalem. [14] These are their numbers, according to their fathers' houses. Of Judah, the captains of thousands: Adnah the captain, and with him three hundred thousand mighty men of valor; [15] and next to him was Jehohanan the captain, and with him two hundred and eighty thousand; [16] and next to him was Amasiah the son of Zichri, who willingly offered himself to the LORD, and with him two hundred thousand mighty men of valor.

- *Amasiah willingly offered himself unto the LORD!* It was usual for great generals to offer of their spoils to the LORD, but Amasiah offered himself first to the LORD, and then his dedicated things.

2Ch 17:17-18 Of Benjamin: Eliada a mighty man of valor, and with him two hundred thousand men armed with bow and shield; [18] and next to him was Jehozabad, and with him one hundred and eighty thousand prepared for war.

- The number of the soldiers under these five generals amounts to 1,160,000 men, a huge number for so small a land of Judah and Benjamin! Abijah could bring into the field but 400,000 (2Ch 13:3), Asa, 600,000 (2Ch 14:8), yet Jehoshaphat has at command almost 1,200,000!

2Ch 17:19 These served the king, besides those the king put in the fortified cities throughout all Judah.

- Again we see that relationship with God. Trusting in God. Teaching the people the ways of God, brought him to the place of strength, peace, prosperity, and security.
- ***Jehoshaphat trusted in God. Teaching the people the ways of God, brought him to the place of strength, peace, prosperity, and security. As a protected child of God, how aware, how grateful am I of His continual protection, security, and blessings?***

Jehoshaphat Allies with Ahab

2Ch 18:1 Jehoshaphat had riches and honor in abundance; and by marriage he allied himself with Ahab.

Here is a very strange and difficult passage of scripture. Jehoshaphat was a good king, a righteous man. He did seek the LORD. He did institute powerful spiritual reforms. Why he would join with Ahab is a problem that you cannot really explain. For Ahab was perhaps, one of the most wicked kings who reigned in Israel. Ahab had married that wicked Jezebel, who had introduced the Baal worship, and made it the worship of Israel. He was about as foul, and wicked king as one could imagine. Yet here is Jehoshaphat joining with him! He arranged for Jehoram, his son to marry Athaliah, the daughter of Ahab and Jezebel. Thus, there became a political alliance because of the marriage of their children.

- One of the weaknesses in Jehoshaphat's life is this area of compromise relative to other people. He buckles when unbelieving friends or relatives want to beckon him into their behavior or to get involved in something with them. He should never have arranged or allowed his son Jehoram to marry Athaliah, Jezebel's daughter!
- ***Jehoshaphat joins Ahab! Avoid ungodly alliances! This is a good lesson for us in that we are to hold true to the Word of God, to the truth of God, when we have either relatives or we have good friends that want to drag us into some of things they are into. Be careful and do not compromise! Learn to say "No"!***

2Ch 18:2 After some years he went down to visit Ahab in Samaria; and Ahab killed sheep and oxen in abundance for him and the people who were with him, and persuaded him to go up with him to Ramoth Gilead.

- Ramoth Gilead was in the heights of Gilead. It was a city that had been taken by Syria. Ahab is wanting to regain this city for Israel. He invites Jehoshaphat to go with him in this battle against Ramoth Gilead.

2Ch 18:3 So Ahab king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat king of Judah, "Will you go with me against Ramoth Gilead?" And he answered him, "I am as you are (not spiritually true), and my people as your people; we will be with you in the war."

- Jehoshaphat is in the family of Ahab now by this intermarrying of their children. So he is willing to make an alliance and says, "We are one. We are together." Now remember, God had given Jehoshaphat peace. Ahab is asking him to go to war. Jehoshaphat agrees. And yet he is disturbed. He has a mind for God, and this situation seems to give him anxiety.

2Ch 18:4 Also Jehoshaphat said to the king of Israel, "Please inquire for the word of the LORD today."

- Jehoshaphat, having it in the wrong order, says, "Let's find out what God has to say about this venture."
- ***Pray before making decisions! Here is a weakness in Jehoshaphat. He makes decisions and then prays, whereas he, and we need to pray before making a decision!***

2Ch 18:5 Then the king of Israel gathered the prophets together, four hundred men, and said to them, "Shall we go to war against Ramoth Gilead, or shall I refrain?" So they said, "Go up, for God will deliver it into the king's hand."

- Here were these four hundred prophets, not of the LORD, but of Ahab, who served in the worship of their calf god. They all said, "Go up. God will deliver it into the king's hands." Jehoshaphat has discernment enough to know there is something wrong here.

2Ch 18:6 But Jehoshaphat said, "Is there not still a prophet of the LORD here, that we may inquire of Him?"

- You have inquired of your calf god. Is there not a prophet of the LORD here, that we can ask him about it?

2Ch 18:7 So the king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, "There is still one man by whom we may inquire of the LORD; And Jehoshaphat said, "Let not the king say such things!"

- Micaiah is one of the great men of the Bible, as we have seen in *1 Kings 22*. He was a man of God who gave out the Word of God. He told Ahab the truth at the peril of his own life. This man is now called on the scene.
- Jehoshaphat does not feel right about what is going on right now. He is not at peace. One of the ways that the Lord uses to lead us is by His peace. And it is an important way that He leads us. (*Col 3:15*) And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful.
- **May we never go against our peace of God! Pray whatever it is until you have the direction from Him that gives you the most peace. Make your decision for your next step. Continue to pray for what will come after that!**

2Ch 18:8 Then the king of Israel called one of his officers and said, "Bring Micaiah the son of Imla quickly!"

- Micaiah had likely been imprisoned by Ahab because of these prophecies against Ahab. The officer was sent to the prison to bring him into prophesy.

2Ch 18:9-10 The king of Israel and Jehoshaphat king of Judah, clothed in their robes, sat each on his throne; and they sat at a threshing floor at the entrance of the gate of Samaria; and all the prophets prophesied before them. [10] Now Zedekiah the son of Chenaanah had made horns of iron for himself; and he said, "Thus says the LORD: 'With these you shall gore the Syrians until they are destroyed.'"

- You can imagine those four hundred prophets saying to Ahab, "Go up against the king of Syria." Zedekiah especially dramatic, running around with iron horns, pushing at everyone with them, saying, "This is the way you are going to do it!" What a scene—two kings on their thrones and all those prophets running around crying, "Go up and fight. You'll win!"

2Ch 18:11 And all the prophets prophesied so, saying, "Go up to Ramoth Gilead and prosper, for the LORD will deliver it into the king's hand."

- If an idolater, someone walking in willful disobedience to God, gives you a word from the LORD, do not believe a word they are saying! They are all saying the same thing, but from a very invalid source.

2Ch 18:12 Then the messenger who had gone to call Micaiah spoke to him, saying, "Now listen, the words of the prophets with one accord encourage the king. Therefore please let your word be like the word of one of them, and speak encouragement."

- The messenger tries to tip off Micaiah as to the situation he will face and advises him to get in step with the rest of them. He says all the prophets agree that they should go up to war so the smart thing for Micaiah to do is to agree with them.

2Ch 18:13-14 And Micaiah said, "As the LORD lives, whatever my God says, that I will speak." [14] Then he came to the king; and the king said to him, "Micaiah, shall we go to war against Ramoth Gilead, or shall I refrain?" And he said, "Go and prosper, and they shall be delivered into your hand!"

- Micaiah, no doubt, said it in sort of a mocking way. He said it in such a way that the king knew that he was not serious.
- Micaiah just throws off that pressure. His life is very simple and carefree. Whatever God tells me to say, whatever His word is in this situation, which is what I am going to say. Whether it costs me my life or it puts me in hot water or it costs me my reputation, this is what I am going to do!
- **Micaiah said, "Whatever my God say, that I will speak!" How much "Micaiah" is in my walk to speak or to do whatever the LORD says to me? Am I free on that? To simply do what He tells me to do?**

2Ch 18:15 So the king said to him, "How many times shall I make you swear that you tell me nothing but the truth in the name of the LORD?"

- All right; you want the truth?

2Ch 18:16 Then he said, "I saw all Israel scattered on the mountains, as sheep that have no shepherd. And the LORD said, 'These have no master' (representing Ahab). Let each return to his house in peace.' "

- Ahab, that is what is going to happen when you go out fight the Syrians.

2Ch 18:17 And the king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, "Did I not tell you he would not prophesy good concerning me, but evil?"

- Ahab said, "This guy is always against me!"

2Ch 18:18 Then Micaiah said, "Therefore hear the word of the LORD: I saw the LORD sitting on His throne, and all the host of heaven standing on His right hand and His left.

- (Isa 6:1) *In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up, and the train of His robe filled the temple.*

2Ch 18:19 And the LORD said, 'Who will persuade Ahab king of Israel to go up, that he may fall at Ramoth Gilead?' So one spoke in this manner, and another spoke in that manner.

- (Isa 6:8) *Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying: "Whom shall I send, And who will go for Us?" Then I said, "Here am I! Send me."*

2Ch 18:20-21 Then a spirit (demonic) came forward and stood before the LORD, and said, 'I will persuade him.' The LORD said to him, 'In what way?' [21] So he said, 'I will go out and be a lying spirit in the mouth of all his prophets.' And the LORD said, 'You shall persuade him and also prevail; go out and do so.'

- The LORD said, "How?" "I will be a lying spirit in the mouth of his prophets." The LORD said, "You go."
- Ahab had been warned and warned but had not yielded. Now the LORD is saying, "Go out and do so." I am taking him to the battle to end his life there.

2Ch 18:22 Therefore look! The LORD has put a lying spirit in the mouth of these prophets of yours, and the LORD has declared disaster against you."

- Here is Micaiah now accusing all of these other prophets of being false prophets, having been filled with a lying spirit. He also makes the prophetic comment, "The LORD has declared disaster against you!"

2Ch 18:23 Then Zedekiah the son of Chenaanah went near and struck Micaiah on the cheek, and said, "Which way did the spirit from the LORD go from me to speak to you?"

- Zedekiah, who had contradicted Micaiah's prophecy to the king, angrily struck Micaiah on the cheek, which was most humiliating.

2Ch 18:24 And Micaiah said, "Indeed you shall see on that day when you go into an inner chamber to hide!"

- Micaiah, the true prophet of the LORD tells of this heavenly vision that he had seen. How it came to pass that these four hundred prophets were in agreement, enticing Ahab to go against Ramoth Gilead to battle.

2Ch 18:25-27 Then the king of Israel said, "Take Micaiah, and return him to Amon the governor of the city and to Joash the king's son; [26] and say, 'Thus says the king: "Put this fellow in prison, and feed him with bread of affliction and water of affliction, until I return in peace." [27] But Micaiah said, "If you ever return in peace, the LORD has not spoken by me." And he said, "Take heed, all you people!"

- Micaiah, for faithfully speaking the truth was buffeted, imprisoned, and condemned to the bread and water of affliction. But he could with assurance appeal to the issue, as all those may do who are persecuted for their faithfulness. The day will declare who is in the right and who in the wrong, when Christ will appear, to the unspeakable consolation of His persecuted people and the everlasting confusion of their persecutors, who will be made to see in that day what they will not now believe.

The Defeat and Death of Ahab

2Ch 18:28-29 So the king of Israel and Jehoshaphat the king of Judah went up to Ramoth Gilead. [29] And the king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, "I will disguise myself and go into battle; but you put on your robes." So the king of Israel disguised himself, and they went into battle.

- Ahab disguised himself as one of the troops, just to get into the fray. At this point, Jehoshaphat most certainly should have said, "No!" He did not have peace with situation. He had heard the truth from Micaiah! Jehoshaphat seems to have a problem saying "No"!
- **How well have I learned to say "no," when I sense that it is not God's perfect will to do so? How faithful am I to say "no" to what is sinful; and "yes" to the things that are godly and righteous?**

2Ch 18:30 Now the king of Syria had commanded the captains of the chariots who were with him, saying, "Fight with no one small or great, but only with the king of Israel."

- **Concentrate on only killing the king of Israel.** If you kill him, the enemy will have no leader and will retreat. *2Ch 18:31-32 So it was, when the captains of the chariots saw Jehoshaphat, that they said, "It is the king of Israel!" Therefore they surrounded him to attack; but Jehoshaphat cried out, and the LORD helped him, and God diverted them from him. [32] For so it was, when the captains of the chariots saw that it was not the king of Israel, that they turned back from pursuing him.*
- **The only reason Jehoshaphat came out alive is because God intervened on his behalf!**
- **This whole situation could have been a devilish plot on behalf of Ahab** to get Jehoshaphat wiped out. Ahab goes into the battle as a common soldier, disguised as a chariot driver, and lets Jehoshaphat put on the robes of the king, knowing that the Syrians are going to be after the king. Figuring, "If they kill Jehoshaphat, then I will be able to reign over Judah also. We will combine the kingdoms, and I will be king over all Israel!"
- 2Ch 18:33-34 Now a certain man drew a bow at random, and struck the king of Israel between the joints of his armor. So he said to the driver of his chariot, "Turn around and take me out of the battle, for I am wounded." [34] The battle increased that day, and the king of Israel propped himself up in his chariot facing the Syrians until evening; and about the time of sunset he died.*
- **Notice the "coincidence" here!** An unidentified soldier draws a bow and shoots an arrow at random, no target in mind. And it strikes Ahab. Not just anywhere but "between the joints of his armor!"
- **The LORD directs the whole thing, precisely as prophesied by Micaiah!** What a great illustration for us! The LORD's purposes being fulfilled through the poor choices made by man.

Jehoshaphat's Reforms

2Ch 19:1 Then Jehoshaphat the king of Judah returned safely to his house in Jerusalem.

- **There is another tremendous lesson here for us that we do not want to miss.** God did not send Jehu to Jehoshaphat before he went to join himself with Ahab and Jezebel. At that time He did not give him a little message on making unholy alliances. Jehoshaphat was a man of God. He made his mistakes. God allowed him to go through this experience with Ahab because God was going to teach him a lesson from this.
- **God will rebuke me if I do the wrong thing.** That is what He did for Jehoshaphat. He taught him through this experience and Jehoshaphat learned his lesson.

2Ch 19:2 And Jehu the son of Hanani the seer (not the Jehu son of Nimshi) went out to meet him, and said to King Jehoshaphat, "Should you help the wicked and love those who hate the LORD? Therefore the wrath of the LORD is upon you."

- Should you help the wicked and love those who hate the LORD? This is a very good question. We are to love God's people; this is His command. And we are to love the sinner in the sense that we should try to bring him to Christ. However, this does not mean that we are to compromise with sin! We are not to make unholy alliances!

2Ch 19:3 Nevertheless good things are found in you, in that you have removed the wooden images from the land, and have prepared your heart to seek God."

- **God recognized Jehoshaphat was a true, genuine lover of the LORD** and He appreciated that.

2Ch 19:4 So Jehoshaphat dwelt at Jerusalem; and he went out again among the people from Beersheba to the mountains of Ephraim, and brought them back to the LORD God of their fathers.

- **Jehoshaphat, unlike his father Asa, accepted the rebuke of the prophet.** He humbly realized he made a mistake there. He responds to God's rebuke by accepting it! "You are right, that is what I did."
- **Notice what Jehoshaphat did with God's rebuke!** He gave himself to being an even greater influence for righteousness in the position that God had called him to! That is a good thing to do in our lives when God rebukes us. or we make a mistake! It is not a time to quit or do less, but it makes us realize that I have weaknesses and frailties in my life that are a danger to His purposes for my life, so I want to align my life even more with the word of God than I ever have before.
- **How am I responding to convictions by the Holy Spirit? Am I more like Asa? Rejecting and hardening my heart? Or like Jehoshaphat? Responding by being more involved in what He has for me to do, such as Jehoshaphat did by again sending people out into the land, encouraging them to grow deeper in their relationship with the LORD!**

2Ch 19:5-6 Then he set judges in the land throughout all the fortified cities of Judah, city by city, [6] and said to the judges, "Take heed to what you are doing, for you do not judge for man but for the LORD, who is with you in the judgment."

- Jehoshaphat charged the judges with the responsibility of realizing that they were standing in God's place to bring judgement. "You are judging for the LORD!" Every judge was to think in terms that he was representing God and was to represent the decisions of God in the matter. For God is the true judge, and if I am set in the position of judge, then it is a necessity that I seek God's judgement in the case, because I am there really to represent the true judgement, which comes from God.

2Ch 19:7 Now therefore, let the fear of the LORD be upon you; take care and do it, for there is no iniquity with the LORD our God, no partiality, nor taking of bribes."

- You judges have an awesome responsibility. You have to judge righteously. "There is no iniquity with our God. There is no respect of persons. Nor is there any receiving of bribes."
- They were to give them clear instruction from the Word of God as they judged the cases. They were not to be bribed. They were not to have partiality. They were to represent the LORD!

2Ch 19:8 Moreover in Jerusalem, for the judgment of the LORD and for controversies, Jehoshaphat appointed some of the Levites and priests, and some of the chief fathers of Israel, when they returned to Jerusalem.

- He established the whole judicial system throughout the land again, setting up sort of a Supreme Court of judges in Jerusalem.

2Ch 19:9 And he commanded them, saying, "Thus you shall act in the fear of the LORD, faithfully and with a loyal heart:

- All judges are to judge in the fear of the LORD; faithful with a loyal or perfect heart, not taking the respect of persons, nor receiving of bribes.

2Ch 19:10 Whatever case comes to you from your brethren who dwell in their cities, whether of bloodshed or offenses against law or commandment, against statutes or ordinances, you shall warn them* (concern for righteousness), *lest they trespass against the LORD and wrath come upon you and your brethren. Do this, and you will not be guilty.

- The Jews who "dwelt in their cities," if dissatisfied with the decision given by the provincial judges, might therefore remove the cause to Jerusalem, as to a court of appeal.
- You shall warn them, lest they trespass against the LORD. To be concerned for righteousness.
- Do this, and you will not be guilty. This implies that those judges who have power in their hands, contract the guilt of sin themselves if they do not use their power for the preventing and restraining of sin in others. "You trespass against the LORD if you do not keep them from trespassing."

2Ch 19:11 And take notice: Amariah the chief priest is over you in all matters of the LORD; and Zebadiah the son of Ishmael, the ruler of the house of Judah, for all the king's matters; also the Levites will be officials before you. Behave courageously, and the LORD will be with the good."

- There were the religious judges, and then there were those judges that dealt in the civil courts, in civil matters. Here is a warning that he gives for judges. Amariah, the chief priest is over you and all matters of the LORD. The chief priest was over everything that had to do with religious issues within the land having to do with the word of God.
- Zebadiah, the son of Ishmael, the ruler of the house of Judah, is over all of the king's matters, civil matters, and also the Levites will be officials before you.
- And then his exhortation, "Behave courageously, and the LORD will be with the good!" The theme of courageous obedience is repeated again. It was the job of the judges to courageously do what was good, and to then trust that the LORD will be with the good.
- (2Ch 15:2) And he went out to meet Asa, and said to him: "Hear me, Asa, and all Judah and Benjamin. 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.
- (2Ch 20:17) You will not need to fight in this battle. Position yourselves, stand still and see the salvation of the LORD, who is with you, O Judah and Jerusalem!" Do not fear or be dismayed; tomorrow go out against them, for the LORD is with you."
- Oh, Lord! I am Yours!

SUMMARY:

- **2Ch 17:6 Jehoshaphat's heart took delight in the ways of the LORD.** How delighted is my heart in the ways of the LORD? Am I moved to respond in any way like Jehoshaphat did in obeying, walking with the LORD, removing the evil high places and images of idolatry and wickedness?
- **2Ch 17:10 The fear of the LORD fell on the enemies of Israel!** Notice how the LORD responded to the spiritual strategies of the Godly reforms: Jehoshaphat's obedience; removing false worship; and teaching God's word! What a great example for us!
- **2Ch 17:19 Jehoshaphat trusted in God.** Teaching the people the ways of God, brought him to the place of strength, peace, prosperity, and security. As a protected child of God, how aware, how grateful am I of His continual protection, security, and blessings?
- **2Ch 18:4? Pray before making decisions! Here is a weakness in Jehoshaphat.** He makes decisions and then prays, whereas he, and we, need to pray before making a decision!
- **2Ch 18:7 Jehoshaphat is not at peace about going to battle with Ahab!** May we never go against our peace of God! Pray whatever it is until you have the direction from Him that gives you the most peace. Make your decision for your next step. Continue to pray for what will come after that!
- **2Ch 18:14 Micaiah said, "Whatever my God say, that I will speak!"** How much "Micaiah" is in my walk to speak or to do whatever the LORD says to me? Am I free on that? To simply do what He tells me to do?
- **2Ch 18:29 Jehoshaphat has a problem saying, "No!"** How well have I learned to say "no," when I sense that it is not God's perfect will to do so? How faithful am I to say "no" to what is sinful; and "yes" to the things that are godly and righteous?
- **2Ch 19:4 How am I responding to convictions by the Holy Spirit? Am I more like Asa?** Rejecting and hardening my heart? Or like Jehoshaphat? Responding by being more involved in what He has for me to do, such as Jehoshaphat did by again sending people out into the land, encouraging them to grow deeper in their relationship with the LORD!
- **Oh, Lord! I am Yours!**

I AM YOURS Terry Clark (5:04/5:08)

*Lord, make me a vessel, of Your Word and Your will. Speak Your words through these lips,
Your own words of life, let them heal the broken-hearted, Lord, make me a servant, I'll wait on You hand and
foot Draw me close, let me know You Let me touch Your heart, let me be Your prized creation
I am Yours, I am Yours, I've been bought with life so precious, I am new; I'm brand new in You, my Jesus.
I am Yours, yes I'm Yours, You hold all my life in Your hand, and when I hear Your Spirit calling me,
I will follow; yes I'll follow- because I am Yours.
Lord fill me with Your Spirit; baptize me in Your love,
Take the fire from the altar let it touch my lips And consume the darkness around me.
I am Yours, I am Yours, I've been bought with life so precious, I am new; I'm brand new in You, my Jesus.
I am Yours, yes I'm Yours, You hold all my life in Your hand, and when I hear Your Spirit calling me,
I will follow; yes I'll follow- because I am Yours. I am Yours... I am Yours... I am Yours*

CLOSING PRAYER

NEXT WEEK: Study 2 Chronicles, Chapters 20-22