

## ***God's Calling Requirements Part 39***

### ***From The Life Of King Asa - How To Keep Your Achievements***

***"1 In the six and thirtieth year of the reign of Asa Baasha king of Israel came up against Judah, and built Ramah, to the intent that he might let none go out or come in to Asa king of Judah. 2 Then Asa brought out silver and gold out of the treasures of the house of the LORD and of the king's house, and sent to Benhadad king of Syria, that dwelt at Damascus, saying, 3 There is a league between me and thee, as there was between my father and thy father: behold, I have sent thee silver and gold; go, break thy league with Baasha king of Israel, that he may depart from me. 4 And Benhadad hearkened unto king Asa, and sent the captains of his armies against the cities of Israel; and they smote Ijon, and Dan, and Abelmaim, and all the store cities of Naphtali. 5 And it came to pass, when Baasha heard it, that he left off building of Ramah, and let his work cease. 6 Then Asa the king took all Judah; and they carried away the stones of Ramah, and the timber thereof, wherewith Baasha was building; and he built therewith Geba and Mizpah. 7 And at that time Hanani the seer came to Asa king of Judah, and said unto him, Because thou hast relied on the king of Syria, and not relied on the LORD thy God, therefore is the host of the king of Syria escaped out of thine hand. 8 Were not the Ethiopians and the Lubims a huge host, with very many chariots and horsemen? yet, because thou didst rely on the LORD, he delivered them into thine hand. 9 For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to shew himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him. Herein thou hast done foolishly: therefore from henceforth thou shalt have wars. 10 Then Asa was wroth with the seer, and put him in a prison house; for he was in a rage with him because of this thing. And Asa oppressed some of the people the same time. 11 And, behold, the acts of Asa, first and last, lo, they are written in the book of the kings of Judah and Israel. 12 And Asa in the thirty and ninth year of his reign was diseased in his feet, until his disease was exceeding great: yet in his disease he sought not to the LORD, but to the physicians. 13 And Asa slept with his fathers, and died in the one and fortieth year of his reign. 14 And they buried him in his own sepulchres, which he had made for himself in the city of David, and laid him in the bed which was filled with sweet odours and divers kinds of spices prepared by the apothecaries' art: and they made a very great burning for him."*** (2 Chronicles 16:1-14 KJV)

In the previous chapters, 2 ***Chronicles 14*** and ***15***, King Asa, did very well and achieve wonderful victories for himself and for the people of God. He removed idols and the high places, he built good things, he trusted God and he won victories over his enemies, he sought the Lord and the people with him, and his heart was perfect before the Lord. In this chapter ***2 chronicles 16***, King Asa is faced with multiple problems but he did not handle them properly and for this reason was not able to maintain his good achievements. ***You need to understand that trials and problems are not intended to break you and makes you fail, but are made to perfect you and to make you achieve further victories in your life.*** King Asa with the troubles that he faced in ***2 Chronicles 16***, God's intention was to make for him further victories. ***Observe trials in your life and consider them tools for promotion and for more victories.***

***"1 In the six and thirtieth year of the reign of Asa Baasha king of Israel came up against Judah, and built Ramah, to the intent that he might let none go out or come in to Asa king of Judah."*** (2 ***Chronicles 16:1*** KJV) King Asa faced betrayal and conspiracy from the king of Israel. The king of Israel intended to block King Asa and the whole Judah. Ramah was a part

of Benjamin and he possibly took it and started to build it in a way that will block Asa and Judah from reaching him and in reaching Israel. As well as he used that to block anyone from reaching Asa and Judah. A kind of boycott to restrict and limit King Asa; this is a dirty game, and God allowed that for a purpose. God allowed that and He did not intend to harm Asa or Judah but he was testing them of how they will behave and act. Along the years of my service and ministry unto God I faced boycotting process from different kinds of people but most of them are the people of faith, and they did that when they noticed that I am not willing to compromise with them and with their worldliness. They used different methods and ways that wanted and tried to block me from reaching out others and continue the ministry that the Lord had given to me. In all these circumstances and events I did not imitate what they did, but I went back to the Lord and reported to Him what they did to me and I asked Him to help me out of my troubled situations. I am fully aware that no man can block me or restrict me unless God do it if I displeased Him. Therefore I am not mindful of any man that can block me if God is pleased with me. No one can close the door that He opens. You need to understand that no man can block you and limit your movement as long as God is pleased with you.

God was waiting that King Asa would maintain his achievements and reap another victory by relying on God to solve this problem. But now let us see how King Asa acted:-

***"2 Then Asa brought out silver and gold out of the treasures of the house of the LORD and of the king's house, and sent to Benhadad king of Syria, that dwelt at Damascus, saying,"*** (2 ***Chronicles 16:2*** KJV) King Asa the first respond to him was to use his money to solve the problem. He did not even prayed, inquired or cried to God to aid him. ***When you face a problem in your life, the first thing you do is to go to God. Don't rely on your money, or on people, or on what you have to solve it.*** King Asa should not do that because he had previous experience of how beautifully God saved him from the big army, one million soldiers and three hundreds chariots, of the Ethiopians and the Lubims (The Lubims are from the country of Libya, a country west of Egypt). King Asa lost the treasures that God gave him when he failed to put his full trust on God.

Usually people when they are faced with any threat or trouble, the first respond they think if they will spend money on it, will be solved. ***That may not be correct in all cases. Have a pause, and think what else can be done to the threats of the enemy. There is a God above us and above all of what is going on and we need to go back to Him and to consult Him of what we need to do.***

***You will lose your treasure and what God gave you from material things when you fail to go back to Him and trust God and not rely on Him and on His promises in facing your problems.***

***"3 There is a league between me and thee, as there was between my father and thy father: behold, I have sent thee silver and gold; go, break thy league with Baasha king of Israel, that he may depart from me."*** (2 ***Chronicles 16:3*** KJV) King Asa here did lot of mistakes. He made league with non believers to solve his problem. He was pleading for Benhadad to make a league with him. There is nothing I can recall that there was a league between the father of Binhadad the king of Syria and Abijah the father of King Asa. He should not do that but first he should go to God and pray to God according to the covenant that he had with Him. ***Do not rely on the arm of the flesh to solve your problems. Go first to God and if He will use some people to solve the problem, then He will either guide you to them or He will bring them to***

you. Now Baasha when he attacked Ramah and took it, he was supported by Binhadad. Now Asa wanted to do the same of what Baasha did. That is absolutely wrong. We should not follow the wrong things that the non believers are doing. We should not be enticed to do wrong as those who are doing evil and wrong against us. Baasha got yoked with non believers to do evil against Asa. Asa should not be enticed and go and put His hand with the same non believer that his enemy used against him.

**“4 And Benhadad hearkened unto king Asa, and sent the captains of his armies against the cities of Israel; and they smote Ijon, and Dan, and Abelmaim, and all the store cities of Naphthali. 5 And it came to pass, when Baasha heard it, that he left off building of Ramah, and let his work cease.”** (2 Chronicles 16:4-5 KJV) Benhadad here moved against Baasha not because he was conscious of the evil that Baasha was doing or because he was a man of stand, but he moved because of money and material things that Asa enticed him with.

Asa here got a false victory, false plunder and false achievement. It was not the achievement that is done by God, but it was done by the arm of the flesh. Christians when they compromise they bring false achievements to God's ministry and church. Now a day many churches they chose covenant with non believers to support and to enlarge the ministry and as the followings:-

1. They use money, food, transport and other services to bring people to the church.
2. They collect money from rich people and non believers to support the ministry.
3. They use their girls to invite boys to the church, and they use their boys to invite girls to the church.
4. They use non committed people to Christ and give them ministry or get them involved in activities just in order to let them be bound to the church.
5. Etc.

**“6 Then Asa the king took all Judah; and they carried away the stones of Ramah, and the timber thereof, wherewith Baasha was building; and he built therewith Geba and Mizpah.”** (2 Chronicles 16:6 KJV) This is a good point in stewardship, that we should use all what we have from plunder, wood, papers, utensils, furnitures, water, electricity, etc., and employ them to build new and good things.

But compromises are never useful and are not ordained or blessed by God. The more the church compromise today, the more the church is losing power and authority. The more we use wrong resources for the ministry, the more we are losing resources and the power of God and His presence in our lives.

Because of what Asa did, he received a rebuke from the overseer: **“7 And at that time Hanani the seer came to Asa king of Judah,”** (2 Chronicles 16:7 KJV) This man of God rebuked King Asa for his wrong doing. I prayed that the message in your hand is a rebuke to you as well if you have been unfaithful to God as King Asa was. The seer Hanani explained further the bad consequences of the compromises,

**A- “and said unto him, Because thou hast relied on the king of Syria, and not relied on the LORD thy God, therefore is the host of the king of Syria escaped out of thine hand. 8 Were not the Ethiopians and the Lubims a huge host, with very many chariots and horsemen? yet,**

**because thou didst rely on the LORD, he delivered them into thine hand. ”** (2 Chronicles 16:7-8 KJV) Compromises, lack of trust on God will pave the way for you for further loses. If Asa would rely on God and on His power, then he would be winning over Baasha and over Benhadad the Syrain. The seer Hanani in his rebuke explained to King Asa that he needed to rely upon God and wait upon Him to escape the trap of Baasha and to win and capture the king of Syria. He told him that in the past God delivered to him a greater army than this one, because he trusted on God, how much more this army of the king of Syria! Sometimes we are confused by Devil who would tell us that we cannot face certain enemies and make us thinking that God cannot or will not deliver us. But the truth God wants us to rely fully on Him in all our troubles.

**B- “9 For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to shew himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him.”** (2 Chronicles 16:9 KJV) God is watching over every movement of us. He knows very well what we are doing and the motive behind our movement. God will strengthen those who are trusting on Him. God will show Himself strong toward those whose heart is perfect before God. God will strengthen those who are with perfect heart. That is why the Bible says that the righteous are as bold as lions, **“1 The wicked flee when no man pursueth: but the righteous are bold as a lion.”** (Proverbs 28:1 KJV) After each and every compromise, and the like mischief, you will be further weakened. The skid row deterioration of the church is the outcome of the worldly way in handling crisis.

King Asa was described with a perfect heart, as we read in here: **“Nevertheless Asa's heart was perfect with the LORD all his days.”** (1 Kings 15:14 KJV) But here his heart was not perfect, but was with defects, and he did foolish things.

The meaning of the Word Asa is either 'healer', or 'injurious', so it was in his hand to do the good or to do the bad. Therefore it is still in your hands to do what is good and lead to healing, or to do what is bad and foolish and leading to injury.

**C- Herein thou hast done foolishly: therefore from henceforth thou shalt have wars.** Compromises and the lack of trust on God is sin and will invite God's wrath to come into your life as a consequence of your sin. The meaning of **“from henceforth thou shalt have wars”**, that we did not read about further war for Asa, but what he means here is that his descendents will be facing wars. When we not rely on God, we will not be able to stand against the enemy and we and our descendents will be at war.

**“10 Then Asa was wroth with the seer, and put him in a prison house; for he was in a rage with him because of this thing. And Asa oppressed some of the people the same time. ”** (2 Chronicles 16:10 KJV) King Asa was angry with the man of God who corrected him and explained to him his sin. He put him in prison to restrict his movement and would not allow His feet to reach out other and get them delivered. The purpose of the rebuke of God and the rebuke of the man of God is to spare you troubles and leading you to repentance. Never be angry with those who explained to you your sins and shortcoming from the light of the Scriptures, they do that only for your own good and for the good of each and everyone. Asa oppressed some of the people, most likely out of pride he did that, because he was rebuked publicly. Be honest with yourself and accept correction and do not retaliate neither with those who correct you nor with the other innocent people around you.

The way you oppress others, is when you resent the rebuke that had been given to you, and rebel against it, then you are oppressing the seer or the pastor that God had placed over you; I had experience of preaching and people looking at me with angry eyes and disfigured faces. I bear that but it is oppressive such experiences when people looking hard to your face; it mean to say, close your mouth and do not speak more. But that is not correct and non beneficial and that will bring further wrath of God into their life.

**“11 And, behold, the acts of Asa, first and last, lo, they are written in the book of the kings of Judah and Israel.” (2 Chronicles 16:11 KJV)** Learn of what is written in the Bible. All of what is written is to remind you and put you once again into the right way of life. All of what is written is to teach you how to maintain your victories and your achievement.

**“12 And Asa in the thirty and ninth year of his reign was diseased in his feet, until his disease was exceeding great: yet in his disease he sought not to the LORD, but to the physicians.” (2 Chronicles 16:12 KJV)** As he restricted the seer in his movement God restricted him in the sickness of his feet. It was either pain or swelling. King Asa again in His sickness he relied not on God but on the physician. He should go back to God to get healed and recovered. Sin can cause sickness. Jesus’ blood for the forgiveness of our sins and for the healing of our diseases that came from sins as we repent.

Healing is from God, and God may use physicians or medicine to heal you. But your trust should be fully on God and not on other things.

**“13 And Asa slept with his fathers, and died in the one and fortieth year of his reign. 14 And they buried him in his own sepulchres, which he had made for himself in the city of David, and laid him in the bed which was filled with sweet odours and divers kinds of spices prepared by the apothecaries’ art: and they made a very great burning for him. ” (2 Chronicles 16:13-14 KJV)** It is good to prepare a place for burial for yourself if you are led by the Holy Spirit. King Asa trusted the apothecaries art to preserve his dead body, instead of depending on the raising power of the Spirit of God. He forgot what his forefather David wrote, **“1 Preserve me, O God: for in thee do I put my trust. 8 I have set the LORD always before me: because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved. 9 Therefore my heart is glad, and my glory rejoiceth: my flesh also shall rest in hope. 10 For thou wilt not leave my soul in hell; neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption. 11 Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore.” (Psalm 16:1, 8-11 KJV)** We need to trust in the resurrection power of God the Holy Spirit to raise up our dead bodies.

The body of Asa was buried and not burned. We as followers of Christ we need to go into burial after death and not to be cremated. When he says here, **“and they made a very great burning for him,”** this burning is not that they burned his body, but the amount of incense and the spices that were burned upon His burial as that became their practice who possibly they took it from the nations around them.

**My dear and beloved:** The message is very clear and it teaches and shows pitfalls that you might in danger to fall in. To keep your victories and good achievements you need to be away from the following wrong things.

The lack of trust in God  
The trust on people  
The trust on money  
The enticement to do as non believers does  
The non perfect heart  
The pride in the spirit  
The lack of the humility  
The non teachable attitude  
The cruelty toward others who are telling you the truth  
The oppression to others  
The trust on medicine and doctors  
The non-believe in the resurrection power of God

Go through the message and reflect it on your personal life and learn your lessons from what you are experiencing. Therefore be very careful of how you live your life not as unwise but as wise, **“15 See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise,” (Ephesians 5:15 KJV)** Walk and act as King Asa walked and acted in **2 Chronicles 14** and **15** and not as in **16**, as you agree to pray.

**My Prayer:** Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus, who died on the cross for my sins and rose from the death to give me eternal life.

Lord thank you for your Word that showed me clearly my sins and my shortcomings.

Lord I repent of the following sins:

The lack of trust in You  
My trust on people  
My trust on money  
My enticement to do as non believers does  
My non perfect heart  
My pride in the spirit  
My lack of the humility  
My non teachable attitude  
My cruelty toward others who are telling me the truth  
My oppression to others  
My trust on medicine and doctors  
My non-believe in the resurrection power of God

Lord I commit myself to humble down, to accept instructions and to follow the principles of this message in my life. Lord let your promise, **For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to shew himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him,** come true in my life. Strengthen me Lord and makes me strong to face the threats of life. Lord I need you much today, more than ever before, to heal me and deliver me from all my enemies and my troubles. Lord deal with the following people \_\_\_\_\_ who are trying to block me and boycotting me.

*Lord fill me with the Holy Spirit to go on and serve you doing the very thing that you want me to do. Lord make life and attitude a good example to others to follow. Lord heal me from the following sickness \_\_\_\_\_. Lord leads me to evangelize to new people and to bring them into your presence.*

*Lord I pray for my Brothers and Sisters who heard the message, who repented of their sins and who are willing to obey you, Lord strengthen them, protect them and provide all their needs, and fill them with the Holy Spirit and give them the spiritual gifts that they need to go on and serve you reaching new people with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.*

*Lord enables us as a church to stand firm against all the form of idol worship and the worldliness, and the fear of man and the trust on people or on material things; Lord help us to reach new areas and new people with the Gospel of Jesus. Lord helps us to plant new Bible studies and new congregations. Lord we cry out to you to go before us and fight our battles. Lord we have no one but you. Lord deal with those who block us and hinder us as a church to go on and do the work of yours. Lord bless us, enlarge our territory, let you hand be with us and free us from harm so that we will not feel pain. May the grace of the Lord Jesus and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all in Jesus name, Amen.*

God's Calling Requirements Part 39. From The Life Of King Asa - How To Keep Your Achievements. 2 Chronicles 16:1-14. Proverbs 28:1. 1 Kings 15:14. Psalm 16:1, 8-11. Ephesians 5:15.

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