

# 2 CHRONICLES 14 vs 1

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The Bible is so interesting; even the Old Testament. Remember: when reading the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Chronicles... we read history and events recorded from the perspective of the 2 tribes of the **Southern Kingdom**, the House of **Judah**;

not when reading 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Kings... where we read the historical perspective of the 10 tribes of the **Northern Kingdom**... the House of **Israel**.

Asa King of Judah,

**1 And Abijah rested with his ancestors and was buried in the City of David. Asa his son succeeded him as king, and in his days the country was at peace for ten years.**

**2 Asa did what was good and right in the eyes of the Lord his God.** <sup>3</sup>He removed the foreign altars and the high places, smashed the sacred stones and cut down the Asherah poles. <sup>4</sup>He commanded **Judah** to seek the Lord, the God of their ancestors, and to obey his laws and commands. <sup>5</sup>He removed the high places and incense altars in every town in **Judah**, and the kingdom was at peace under him. <sup>6</sup>He built up the fortified cities of **Judah**, since the land was at peace. No one was at war with him during those years, for the Lord gave him rest.

<sup>7</sup>Let us build up these towns, he said to Judah, and put walls around them, with towers, gates and bars. The land is still ours, because we have sought the Lord our God; we sought him and he has given us rest on every side. So they built and prospered.

<sup>8</sup>Asa had an army of 300,000 men from **Judah**, equipped with large shields and with spears, and 280,000 from Benjamin, armed with small shields and with bows. All these were brave fighting men.

<sup>9</sup>Zerah the Cushite marched out against them with an army of thousands upon thousands and 300 chariots, and came as far as Mareshah. <sup>10</sup>Asa went out to meet him, and they took up battle positions in the Valley of Zephathah near Mareshah.

<sup>11</sup>Then Asa called to the Lord his God and said, Lord, there is no one like you to help the powerless against the mighty. Help us, Lord our God, for we rely on you, and in your name we have come against this vast army. Lord, you are our God; do not let mere mortals prevail against you.

<sup>12</sup>The Lord struck down the Cushites before Asa and Judah. The Cushites fled, <sup>13</sup>and Asa and his army pursued them as far as Gerar. Such a great number of Cushites fell that they could not recover; they were crushed before the Lord and his forces. The men of Judah carried off a large amount of plunder.



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<sup>14</sup> They destroyed all the villages around Gerar, for the terror of the Lord had fallen on them. They looted all these villages, since there was much plunder there. <sup>15</sup> They also attacked the camps of the herders and carried off droves of sheep and goats and camels. Then they returned to Jerusalem.

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