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²¹ Now Rehoboam the son of Solomon reigned in Judah. Rehoboam was forty-one years old when he became king, and he reigned seventeen years in Jerusalem, the city which the LORD had chosen from all the tribes of Israel to put His name there. And his mother's name was Naamah the Ammonitess.

²² Judah did evil in the sight of the LORD, and they provoked Him to jealousy more than all that their fathers had done, with the sins which they committed.

(1 Kings 14:21-22)

2

²⁹ Now the rest of the acts of Rehoboam and all that he did, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Judah? ³⁰ There was war between Rehoboam and Jeroboam continually. ³¹ And Rehoboam slept with his fathers and was buried with his fathers in the city of David; and his mother's name was Naamah the Ammonitess. And Abijam his son became king in his place.

(1 Kings 14:29-31)

3



4

Now in the eighteenth year of King Jeroboam, the son of Nebat, Abijam became king over Judah. ² He reigned three years in Jerusalem; and his mother's name was Maacah the daughter of Abishalom. ³ He walked in all the sins of his father which he had committed before him; and his heart was not wholly devoted to the LORD his God, like the heart of his father David. ⁴ But for David's sake the LORD his God gave him a lamp in Jerusalem, to raise up his son after him and to establish Jerusalem; ⁵ because David did what was right in the sight of the LORD, and had not turned aside from anything that He commanded him all the days of his life, except in the case of Uriah the Hittite. ⁶ There was war between Rehoboam and Jeroboam all the days of his life.

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⁷ Now the rest of the acts of Abijam and all that he did, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Judah? And there was war between Abijam and Jeroboam. ⁸ And Abijam slept with his fathers and they buried him in the city of David; and Asa his son became king in his place.

(1 Kings 15:1-8)

6

Two Judean Kings

1. Abijam: *"like father, like son"*

- he followed in the idolatry of his father
- he did not follow after his father David in whole-hearted devotion to Yahweh

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Two Judean Kings

➤ *"For David's sake"*

1. Yahweh's Covenant Faithfulness

- David's dynasty ("lamp") will not end because of God's promise to David
- this promise is fulfilled in David's great son, the Lord Jesus

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Two Judean Kings

➤ *"For David's sake"*

2. David's Covenant Consistency

- David is the standard for all future kings, and a picture of the ultimate king
- David is a model believer, who trusts in God's promise and walks in obedience, even as a sinner

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⁹ So in the twentieth year of Jeroboam the king of Israel, Asa began to reign as king of Judah. ¹⁰ He reigned forty-one years in Jerusalem; and his mother's name was Maacah the daughter of Abishalom. ¹¹ Asa did what was right in the sight of the LORD, like David his father. ¹² He also put away the male cult prostitutes from the land and removed all the idols which his fathers had made. ¹³ He also removed Maacah his mother from *being* queen mother, because she had made a horrid image as an Asherah; and Asa cut down her horrid image and burned *it* at the brook Kidron. ¹⁴ But the high places were not taken away; nevertheless the heart of Asa was wholly devoted to the LORD all his days. ¹⁵ He brought into the house of the LORD the dedicated things of his father and his own dedicated things: silver and gold and utensils.

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¹⁶ Now there was war between Asa and Baasha king of Israel all their days. ¹⁷ Baasha king of Israel went up against Judah and fortified Ramah in order to prevent *anyone* from going out or coming in to Asa king of Judah. ¹⁸ Then Asa took all the silver and the gold which were left in the treasuries of the house of the LORD and the treasuries of the king's house, and delivered them into the hand of his servants. And King Asa sent them to Ben-hadad the son of Tabrimmon, the son of Hezion, king of Aram, who lived in Damascus, saying, ¹⁹ *"Let there be a treaty between you and me, as between my father and your father. Behold, I have sent you a present of silver and gold; go, break your treaty with Baasha king of Israel so that he will withdraw from me."*

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²⁰ So Ben-hadad listened to King Asa and sent the commanders of his armies against the cities of Israel, and conquered Ijon, Dan, Abel-beth-maacah and all Chinneroth, besides all the land of Naphtali. ²¹ When Baasha heard *of it*, he ceased fortifying Ramah and remained in Tirzah. ²² Then King Asa made a proclamation to all Judah—none was exempt—and they carried away the stones of Ramah and its timber with which Baasha had built. And King Asa built with them Geba of Benjamin and Mizpah.

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²³ Now the rest of all the acts of Asa and all his might and all that he did and the cities which he built, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Judah? But in the time of his old age he was diseased in his feet. ²⁴ And Asa slept with his fathers and was buried with his fathers in the city of David his father; and Jehoshaphat his son reigned in his place.

(1 Kings 15:9-24)

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Two Judean Kings

2. Asa: *"like father David!"*

- his heart was wholly devoted to Yahweh; seen by his purging idolatry from Judah
- wavers in his trust of Yahweh by "bribing" a foreign king to deliver Judah

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Two Judean Kings

➤ Unexplainable grace!

- a glimpse of God's intervening grace to fulfill His promise...almost!
- God's grace transforms and overcomes beyond all human expectation

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