

**The Kings of Judah**  
**Asa: His Reign and the Nation's First Revival**  
**2 Chronicles 14:01-08**  
**Lesson I**  
*Written: March 30, 1986*

REVIEW

THE KINGDOM OF ISRAEL WAS DIVIDED into NORTH AND SOUTH.

2 Chronicles 11:13-17

And we are only dealing with the stories of the kings of the South.

And the priests and the Levites that *were* in all Israel resorted to him out of all their coasts. For the Levites left their suburbs and their possession, and came to Judah and Jerusalem: for Jeroboam and his sons had cast them off from executing the priest's office unto the LORD: And he ordained him priests for the high places, and for the devils, and for the calves which he had made. And after them out of all the tribes of Israel such as set their hearts to seek the LORD God of Israel came to Jerusalem, to sacrifice unto the LORD God of their fathers. So they strengthened the kingdom of Judah, and made Rehoboam the son of Solomon strong, three years: for three years they walked in the way of David and Solomon.

2 Chronicles 11:13-17

ASA

SCRIPTURES

2 Chronicles 14:1; 2 Chronicles 15:1; 2 Chronicles 16:1

1 Kings 15:9-24

The name "Asa" means "physician" or "healer." He was raised up to be a physician for the Kingdom of Judah to heal it of its idolatry. Yet at the end of his life, as we shall see, he was smitten with a disease himself which he was not able to heal! Under Asa came the first revival in the Nation. There never was a renewal in the Northern Kingdom of Israel, but in the southern kingdom there were five kings raised up-godly men, who led the nation into revival. These were: Asa, Jehoshaphat, Joash, Hezekiah and Josiah.

Now Hiram king of Tyre sent messengers to David, and timber of cedars, with masons and carpenters, to build him an house.

2 Chronicles 14:1

And the Spirit of God came upon Azariah the son of Oded:

2 Chronicles 15:1

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

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## 1. ASA LED THE FIRST REVIVAL IN JUDAH.

- 1) Under Asa 2 Chronicles 15:8-9 out of all the tribes, some moved south.
- 2) Jehoshaphat 2 Chronicles 19:4 Some moved south.
- 3) Joash 2 Chronicles 24:5 some moved south.
- 4) Hezekiah 2 Chronicles 29:20,24 "ALL Israel."  
2 Chronicles. 30:1,5,6,10,11,25  
2 Chronicles 31:1,5,6,8
- 5) Josiah 2 Chronicles 34:1,8,9,21,33  
2 Chronicles 35:17-18

And when Asa heard these words, and the prophecy of Oded the prophet, he took courage, and put away the abominable idols out of all the land of Judah and Benjamin, and out of the cities which he had taken from mount Ephraim, and renewed the altar of the LORD, that *was* before the porch of the LORD. And he gathered all Judah and Benjamin, and the strangers with them out of Ephraim and Manasseh, and out of Simeon: for they fell to him out of Israel in abundance, when they saw that the LORD his God *was* with him.

2 Chronicles 15:8-9

And Jehoshaphat dwelt at Jerusalem: and he went out again through the people from Beersheba to mount Ephraim, and brought them back unto the LORD God of their fathers.

2 Chronicles 19:4

And he gathered together the priests and the Levites, and said to them, Go out unto the cities of Judah, and gather of all Israel money to repair the house of your God from year to year, and see that ye hasten the matter. Howbeit the Levites hastened *it* not.

2 Chronicles 24:5

**Verse 20** Then Hezekiah the king rose early, and gathered the rulers of the city, and went up to the house of the LORD. **Verse 24** And the priests killed them, and they made reconciliation with their blood upon the altar, to make an atonement for all Israel: for the king commanded *that* the burnt offering and the sin offering *should be made* for all Israel.

2 Chronicles 29:20,24

**Verse 1** And Hezekiah sent to all Israel and Judah, and wrote letters also to Ephraim and Manasseh, that they should come to the house of the LORD at Jerusalem, to keep the passover unto the LORD God of Israel. **Verse 5** So they established a decree to make proclamation throughout all Israel, from Beersheba even to Dan, that they should come to keep the passover unto the LORD God of Israel at Jerusalem: for they had not done *it* of a long *time in such sort* as it was written. **Verse 6** So the posts went with the letters from the king and his princes throughout all Israel and Judah, and according to the commandment of the king, saying, Ye children of Israel, turn again unto the LORD God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, and he will return to the remnant of you, that are escaped out of the hand of the kings of Assyria. **Verse 10** So the posts passed from city to city through the country of Ephraim and Manasseh even unto Zebulun: but they laughed them to scorn, and mocked them.

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**Verse 11** Nevertheless divers of Asher and Manasseh and of Zebulun humbled themselves, and came to Jerusalem. **Verse 25** And all the congregation of Judah, with the priests and the Levites, and all the congregation that came out of Israel, and the strangers that came out of the land of Israel, and that dwelt in Judah, rejoiced.

2 Chronicles. 30:1,5,6,10,11,25

**Verse 1** Now when all this was finished, all Israel that were present went out to the cities of Judah, and brake the images in pieces, and cut down the groves, and threw down the high places and the altars out of all Judah and Benjamin, in Ephraim also and Manasseh, until they had utterly destroyed them all. Then all the children of Israel returned, every man to his possession, into their own cities. **Verse 5** And as soon as the commandment came abroad, the children of Israel brought in abundance the firstfruits of corn, wine, and oil, and honey, and of all the increase of the field; and the tithe of all *things* brought they in abundantly. **Verse 6** And *concerning* the children of Israel and Judah, that dwelt in the cities of Judah, they also brought in the tithe of oxen and sheep, and the tithe of holy things which were consecrated unto the LORD their God, and laid *them* by heaps. **Verse 8** And when Hezekiah and the princes came and saw the heaps, they blessed the LORD, and his people Israel.

2 Chronicles 31:1,5,6,8

**Verse 1** Josiah *was* eight years old when he began to reign, and he reigned in Jerusalem one and thirty years. **Verse 8** Now in the eighteenth year of his reign, when he had purged the land, and the house, he sent Shaphan the son of Azaliah, and Maaseiah the governor of the city, and Joah the son of Joahaz the recorder, to repair the house of the LORD his God. **Verse 9** And when they came to Hilkiah the high priest, they delivered the money that was brought into the house of God, which the Levites that kept the doors had gathered of the hand of Manasseh and Ephraim, and of all the remnant of Israel, and of all Judah and Benjamin; and they returned to Jerusalem. **Verse 21** Go, enquire of the LORD for me, and for them that are left in Israel and in Judah, concerning the words of the book that is found: for great *is* the wrath of the LORD that is poured out upon us, because our fathers have not kept the word of the LORD, to do after all that is written in this book. **Verse 33** And Josiah took away all the abominations out of all the countries that *pertained* to the children of Israel, and made all that were present in Israel to serve, *even* to serve the LORD their God. *And* all his days they departed not from following the LORD, the God of their fathers.

2 Chronicles 34:1,8,9,21,33

**Verse 17** And the children of Israel that were present kept the passover at that time, and the feast of unleavened bread seven days. **Verse 18** And there was no passover like to that kept in Israel from the days of Samuel the prophet; neither did all the kings of Israel keep such a passover as Josiah kept, and the priests, and the Levites, and all Judah and Israel that were present, and the inhabitants of Jerusalem.

2 Chronicles 35:17,18

I have inserted these scriptures into our lesson for two reasons. First ,so that we can begin to see what happened in the Nation when revival came. IT TOUCHED THE NATION. Secondly, and most importantly, to show what happened regarding the Tribes of Israel. After Solomon, the kingdom was divided in two. The Northern kingdom of Israel, the southern kingdom of Judah. And as we have stated, there were revivals in the south, but not in the north.

The above list of Scriptures prove that every time there was a revival in the south, people, a godly remnant, left the North and moved south into Judah. And these took up permanent residence there. So by the time of Josiah, and at the time of the Babylonian Captivity, 12 tribes, not 2, but all 12 tribes of Israel were living in Judah. So when Babylon took Israel into Captivity, they took all 12 tribes. And 70 years later when the captives returned to Israel's land under Ezra and Nehemiah it was not a return of 2 tribes, with 10 tribes being lost, it was a return of all the 12 tribes of Israel.

Thus by noting this history in Chronicles we learn that there is no such thing as "ten lost tribes." Any doctrine built on the teaching of "ten lost tribes" will eventually prove to be false. But the lie has been repeated so often that people, Christian people, have been brain-washed into believing to be true that which is not true.

So summarize the lessons;

- 1) All the tribes were preserved in Judah.
- 2) All the tribes were taken captive into Babylon.
- 3) A remnant of all the tribes returned from Babylon.
- 4) All the tribes were scattered again by the Romans. 70-135 A.D.
- 5) No tribes are lost, only scattered.

Acts 26:7

James 1:1

Unto which *promise* our twelve tribes, instantly serving *God* day and night, hope to come. For which hope's sake, king Agrippa, I am accused of the Jews.

Acts 26:7

James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, to the twelve tribes which are scattered abroad, greeting.

James 1:1

**We repeat, the doctrine of "ten lost tribes" is not Scriptural.**

## 11. ASA HAD A GOOD BEGINNING.

1. 2 Chronicles 14:1 rest for 10 years of 41
2. 2 Chronicles 14:2 he did good.
3. 2 Chronicles 14:3 he broke up the idols.
4. 2 Chronicles 14:4 he was a good leader
5. 2 Chronicles 14:5 again, he removed idols.
6. 2 Chronicles 15:6-7 result, built and sought God.
7. 2 Chronicles 15: 17 he had a good heart.

So Abijah slept with his fathers, and they buried him in the city of David: and Asa his son reigned in his stead. In his days the land was quiet ten years.

2 Chronicles 14:1

And Asa did *that which was* good and right in the eyes of the LORD his God:

2 Chronicles 14:2

For he took away the altars of the strange *gods*, and the high places, and brake down the images, and cut down the groves:

2 Chronicles 14:3

And commanded Judah to seek the LORD God of their fathers, and to do the law and the commandment.

2 Chronicles 14:4

Also he took away out of all the cities of Judah the high places and the images: and the kingdom was quiet before him.

2 Chronicles 14:5

And nation was destroyed of nation, and city of city: for God did vex them with all adversity. Be ye strong therefore, and let not your hands be weak: for your work shall be rewarded.

2 Chronicles 15:6-7

But the high places were not taken away out of Israel: nevertheless the heart of Asa was perfect all his days.

2 Chronicles 15: 17

Asa was a man of peace. Then he was faithful to his God. The worship of Baal (he god) and the worship of Ashteroth (she god) had remained in the land since the days of the Canaanites. It was because of these gods and the vice that accompanied their worship, that God had sent Joshua into the land to destroy utterly, the Canaanites. But now, Judah has set up idols for these strange gods. "The high places were places offering illegal sacrifices. Idols are set up to take the place of God. "How vainly we try to make up for His absence from our hearts.".(McLaren)

But like Gideon, who began his office as a Judge by a bold attack against his fathers idols, Asa began his reign by a bold attack against idolatry. He did what he did because he desired to do that which was both "good" and "right". And we have also read, he did so because his heart was right. He acknowledges in verse 6, it was the Lord who had given rest, that is peace from war...and therefore he was able to build up his kingdom.

McLaren " The truth of all the Chronicles is brought out in the connection between honouring Jehovah and National prosperity. Righteousness exalteth a nation but sin is areproach to any people. Righteousness allows time to build, but the sin of a nation can soon destroy the nation."

Asa began well. He had a good foundation. So in verse 7, they built and prospered. "Asa had said in effect we must be right about our God before we can be right with one another." With a wrong theology, we never can have a throughly sound and healthy economical system. To be wrong in our concept of God makes us wrong in everything (Parker). cf 1 Timothy 2:2

For kings, and *for* all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty .

1 Timothy 2:2