

King Asa's Confrontation with the Prophet Azariah: A Challenge to Be Strong in the Lord 2 Chronicles 15:01–07

Asa's confrontation with the prophet Azariah: A challenge to be strong in the LORD

- a. The prophet was sent by God to issue a strong warning to the king and the people
- 1) The LORD's presence and help are conditional:
Must seek Him
 - 2) The LORD would forsake them if they forsook Him
- b. The prophet used the era of the judges as an example
- 1) Their terrible condition:
Were without the true God
 - 2) Their deliverance:
When they sought and turned to God
 - 3) Their difficult days and troublesome, dark times
 - It was unsafe to travel due to lawlessness
 - There was constant warfare
 - God was using the lawless time as discipline:
To lead them to repentance,
Jud 2:11-19
- c. The prophet challenged Asa and the people to be strong in the LORD, never giving up

- 1 The Spirit of God came on Azariah son of Oded.
- 2 He went out to meet Asa and said to him, "Listen to me, Asa and all Judah and Benjamin. The LORD is with you when you are with him. If you seek him, he will be found by you, but if you forsake him, he will forsake you.
- 3 For a long time Israel was without the true God, without a priest to teach and without the law.
- 4 But in their distress they turned to the LORD, the God of Israel, and sought him, and he was found by them.
- 5 In those days it was not safe to travel about, for all the inhabitants of the lands were in great turmoil.
- 6 One nation was being crushed by another and one city by another, because God was troubling them with every kind of distress.
- 7 But as for you, be strong and do not give up, for your work will be rewarded."