

Covid Keys & Cures in 2 Chronicles

Please read 2 Chronicles Chapter 14

What made Asa an 'ace' king? Why was the land quiet for ten years under his reign? Two things especially are noted for us as reasons in the opening verses:

- (i) He sought to purify the worship of God from foreign idols & spurious human traditions and
- (ii) He commanded Judah to seek the Lord God of their fathers, and to observe the law and the commandment (vs 2-5).

First, it's tempting to think that the first of these issues was only relevant back then. I'm inclined to think it isn't. I wouldn't want to wholly condemn what passes for worship in our Churches on Sundays but, having generally attended regularly, I confess I've been disquieted for years.

In recent years, the burden of my heart has been a determination to bring every aspect of human life (i.e. civilisation) under the Lordship of Christ. I've had pinned to the wall above my desk this famous quote from the pen of Abraham Kuyper:

"One desire has been the ruling passion of my life. One high motive has acted like a spur upon my mind and soul. and sooner than that I should seek escape from the sacred necessity that is laid upon me, let the breath of life fail me. It is this: That, in spite of all worldly opposition, God's holy ordinances shall be established again in the home, in the school and in the State for the good of the people; to carve as it were into the conscience of the nation the ordinances of the Lord, to which Bible and Creation bear witness, until the nation pays homage again to God."



My principal concern has been the failure of the Church to inculcate in its attendees a consistent 'Biblical worldview.' The resulting narrow dualistic perspective (Pietism) dominates today. Pearcey traces the roots of this drift back to the 18th century. Matt Trewella goes further back, alleging that the adjustment was engineered self-consciously in the 17th century to deter political activism by Christians. One thing is certain, in the past century or more, Christian leaders have been 'asleep at the wheel.' Consequently, we have suffered the dereliction of a great deal of our Christian heritage by an insipid pacifism which has shunned any serious involvement in calling Civil Government to account, etc. Perhaps in future posts I'll spell out more clearly how this abandonment of being salt & light in the community has manifested itself in what we sing in Church on Sundays.

Second, notice the testimony of Scripture here in its celebration of Asa's 'spiritual' courage. He encouraged his fellow brethren to seek the Lord & to return to the upholding of God's laws in society. I venture to suggest that was the key to the victory that followed. Notice, once again, it was the Lord who defeated the Egyptian army (of one million fighting men!) defending the cause of His covenant people. King Asa's prayer has become famous,

Asa cried out to the Lord his God, and said, "Lord, it is nothing for You to help, whether with many or with those who have no power; help us, O Lord our God, for we rest on You, and in Your name we go against this multitude. O Lord, You are our God; do not let man prevail against You!" (v11)

Finally, notice that having defeated all the cities around Gerar, the fear of the Lord came upon them; and they plundered all the cities (v14). God was so real to Asa & Judah that their enemies were made subject to fear and material losses & gains favoured the people of God. We haven't seen this for some time!

Covid Keys & Cures in 2 Chronicles – Questions from Ch 14:

- *Is it possible that we have allowed spurious elements into our weekly times of divine worship? How might we retain Biblical fidelity' in how we worship God?*
- *Have we (perhaps unwittingly) suffered unscriptural notions & ideas to infiltrate our singing? What is the obvious antidote?*
- *Why does solidarity with God's Law (e.g. Ten Commandments) – as urged by Asa – get such little traction today in evangelicalism? Have we really been seeking God?*
- *Look again at Asa's prayer in v11. Should we adopt such an attitude when confronted with Big Tech, MSM, Beastly Governments and compromised Churches?*