

Covid Keys & Cures in 2 Chronicles

Please read 2 Chronicles Chapter 16

Some Remarkable Things!

(i) **Asa's Appeal (vs 1-6)**

Asa suffered the threat of starvation by siege when Baasha, king of Israel, prevented anyone coming/going to Jerusalem. He therefore purchased help from Ben-Hadad king of Syria. That worked. Indeed, it was so successful Asa used the siege materials to fortify his own cities! Alas, Asa here acted PRAGMATICALLY. So do we too - often. God warns us by the narration of this event not to do so.

(ii) **Hanani's Rebuke (vs 7-9)**

The first thing to note is that Asa compromised his geopolitical mission. That was to bring all the surrounding nations (including Syria!) into subjection to godly rule. Even back then, the goal was for the nation of Israel to be a light to the surrounding nations which were to bring tribute to their king as a token recognition of God's extensive superintendence. By compromising pragmatically, Asa forewent that expectation. Instead, the king of Syria ended up with the Temple treasuries at his personal disposal. Asa had been afraid. He had forgotten what God had done to the million strong army of Egypt.

In this relatively obscure passage we encounter this amazing verse:

"For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show Himself strong on behalf of those whose heart is loyal to Him."

Read it again and again & meditate upon it. Is it true? Is it still true today? Do you believe it? Is YOUR heart loyal to the Lord? Can we expect this same God to 'show Himself strong' to those of us facing medical tyranny (the vaccine) and government fascism? Have you encouraged this attitude of heart or have you instead tended to be a doom-monger, believing the future will be inevitably bleak?

(iii) **Asa's Disappointing End (vs 10-14)**

Notwithstanding an exemplary first 36 years, Asa finished badly. He imprisoned God's seer, became angry at the truth and even oppressed his own people (v10). Have our own fellow brothers & sisters been guilty of the same towards us who have ventured to explain, in relation to Covid, what's really going on?

Continuing to thing along the same lines, notice what happened next to Asa. He contracted a serious disease (in his feet) preventing his circulation in wider society before eventually dying somewhat ignominiously. Did he seek the Lord in his distress? Not at all. Moreover, it is apparent that his reliance upon the medical institution was indicted by God (v12)!

Then they cried out to the Lord in their trouble, and He saved them out of their distresses.

He brought them out of darkness and the shadow of death, and broke their chains in pieces.

Oh, that men would give thanks to the Lord for His goodness, And for His wonderful works to the children of men!

(Psalm 107:13-15)

Covid Keys & Cures in 2 Chronicles – Questions from Ch 16:

- *What is PRAGMATISM? What's wrong with it?*
- *Have you acted PRAGMATICALLY without due thought for whether your activity is God-honouring?*
- *Is The Great Commission (Matt 28) an exclusively NT ideal? What was God's design for the Gentile nations of the world? (See Ps 87)*
- *Read again v9. Is it true? Is it still true today? Do you believe it? Is YOUR heart loyal to the Lord? Can we expect this same God to 'show Himself strong' to those of us facing medical tyranny (the vaccine) and government fascism? Have you encouraged this attitude of heart or have you instead tended to be a doom-monger, believing the future will be inevitably bleak?*