

**Jehoshaphat: The Tragedy of Compromise**

**Lesson 10**

*Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? 2 Corinthians 6:14*

**Jehoshaphat’s Strong Start (2 Chronicles 17)**

**Jehoshaphat’s political strength –** Jehoshaphat began his reign by doing what kings are supposed to do well.

* He built up fortresses (17:1-2)
* He built up the treasury (17:5)
* He built up the army (17:10-19)

**Jehoshaphat’s religious fervor**

* He sought God not Baal (17:3-4)
* He removed idolatry (17:6, cf 1 Kings 22:46)
* He taught people the law (17:7-9)

**Jehoshaphat’s Spiritual Compromise (2 Chronicles 18)**

**Ahab’s proposal (18:1-3)** Jehoshaphat makes a marriage alliance with Ahab, and while they are feasting together Ahab suggest they go war against Syria.

**A message from the Lord (18:4-27)** Jehoshaphat wisely asks that they check with a prophet first.

* **The false prophets (18:4-11)** 400 false prophets of the Lord promise God’s deliverance.
* **God’s prophet (18:12-27)** A true prophet of the Lord gives God’s message.

**A disastrous result (18:28-34)** Syria soundly defeats the Israel-Judah coalition and Ahab is killed in the battle.

**Jehoshaphat’s Spiritual Renewal (2 Chronicles 19-20)**

**Jehoshaphat is reprimanded (19:1-3)** A prophet rebukes Jehoshaphat for his alliance with the evil Ahab.

**Jehoshaphat sets up judges (19:4-11)** Taking seriously his role as king, Jehoshaphat instructs his judges to be fair and promote righteousness.

**Jehoshaphat faces a coalition (20:1-30)** Several kings rise up against Judah, causing Jehoshaphat to have to rely on God.

* Jehoshaphat’s prayer (20:1-12)
* A prophet promises victory (20:13-19)
* God works a mighty victory (20:20-30)

**Jehoshaphat’s End (2 Chronicles 20)**

**Summary of Jehoshaphat’s reign (20:31-34)** God views Jehoshaphat as a good king who followed as his father Asa had.

**Jehoshaphat’s final compromises (20:35-37; 2 Kings 3)** Sadly, after everything he went through, Jehoshaphat still didn’t learn his lesson about the danger of compromise.

* His financial compromise (20:35-37)
* His political compromise (2 Kings 3)