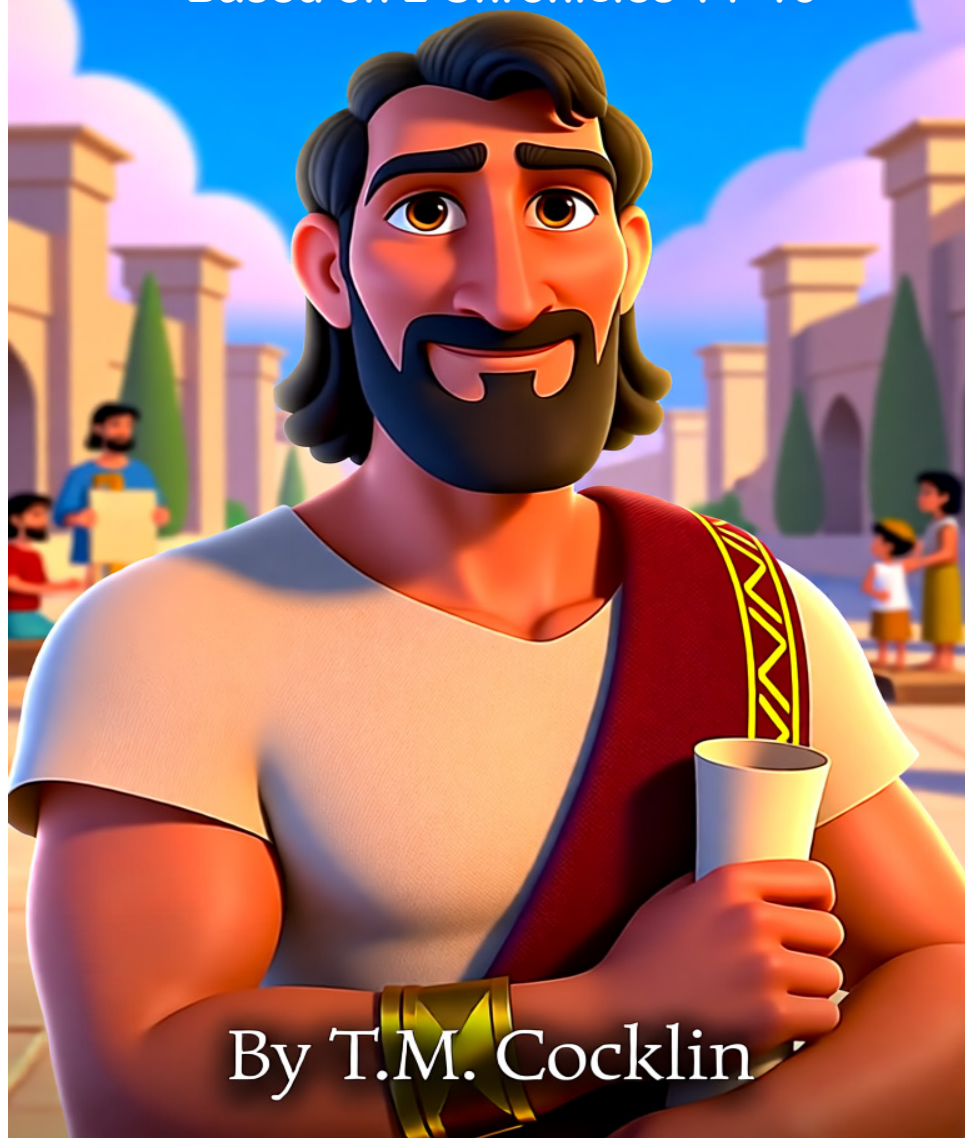


KING ASA

Help for those
who Trust God

Based on 2 Chronicles 14–16



By T.M. Cocklin



**In this book we use the word Adonai in the text to indicate the name of the all mighty.
We do this so we not to offend those who do not say the name.**



After King Abijah died, his son Asa became king in the city of David. In Asa's early years, Adonai gave the land ten years of rest.



King Asa chose to do what was good and right in the eyes of the Lord Adonai.



Asa took away the pretend-god places—high hills and stone pillars—and told the people of Judah to seek the Lord and follow His commands.



**Because they sought Adonai,
the kingdom had rest. Asa
built strong cities with walls,
towers, gates, and bars.
Adonai gave them peace on
every side.**



Then a leader named **Zerah** came with a very large army of a million men with chariots, marching as far as Mareshah. It looked impossible!



**Asa's army was ready:
300,000 brave men from
Judah with shields and
spears, and 280,000 from
Benjamin with shields and
bows. They were mighty and
brave.**



They met at the Valley of Zephathah. Asa's people stood in their places. They felt small—but they were not alone.



Asa prayed, “Lord, there is none like You to help the strong and the powerless. We rely on You. Please help us!”



Adonai defeated the enemy before Asa and Judah. The other army ran away, and Judah was safe.



All Judah returned home with many sheep and camels they got from the enemy. They had thankful hearts. They trusted Adonai and He took care of them.



The angel of the Lord came to Azariah the son of Oded and Azariah told Asa, Judah and Benjamin “The Lord is with you while you are with Him. If you seek Him, you will find Him, but if you forsake him, he will forsake you.”



Asa took courage. He cleared away the idols from Judah and Benjamin and repaired the Lord's altar.



**People from Ephraim,
Manasseh, and Simeon came
to Judah from Israel because
they saw that Adonai was
with Asa.**



In Jerusalem, in the third month of Asa's fifteenth year, everyone promised together to seek the Lord with all their heart and soul.

A big gathering in festive clothes near the Temple; hands over hearts, joyful faces.



They shouted with joy and played shofars and beat drums. They brought gifts to the Lord and rejoiced, and Adonai gave them rest all around.



Asa loved Adonai more than popularity. He even corrected Maacah his mother to keep the land true to Adonai.

Asa's heart stayed fully true all his days, and he brought silver, gold, and beautiful vessels to Adonai's house.



There was no war until the thirty-fifth year of Asa's reign. Adonai's peace lasted a long time.



In Asa's thirty-sixth year, another king, King Baasa of Israel made trouble.

Asa sent silver and gold to Ben-hadad of Aram a foreign king to ask for help. The plan worked, but it was not Adonai's way.

Asa looked a little worried, had he done the right thing?



Hanani the prophet came to Asa and said,

“You relied on another king instead of the Lord. Remember how Adonai helped you before? The Lord looks everywhere to give strong help to those who trust Him with all their heart.”



The message was hard to hear, and Asa reacted poorly. Trouble followed. Adonai wants us to trust Him first, even when plans seem easier another way.

From that time because he did not trust the Lord, they had wars. Adonai had delt harshly with King Asa for not coming to him for help.



From Asa's life we learn:

- Seek Adonai, before taking action then do what he directs,
- pray in scary times, and trust in Adonai alone,
- trust Adonai more than our own plans or fears.
- Give thanks to Adonai always!

**For the eyes of the LORD
run to and fro throughout the
whole earth, to give strong
support to those whose heart
is blameless toward him.**

**2 Chronicles 16:9
English Standard Version**

