

Communion Meditation

2 Chr 16.1-14 "Loyalty Rewards" November 5th, 2017

Asa's Reign Ended Poorly

- Asa had reigned as king in Jerusalem a long time
 - He'd ruled well – **Read 14.2, 9-12, 15.1-4, 7, 9-15**
 - He'd covenanted with God 20 years earlier
- **Read 2 Chr 15.17b** ~ "Nevertheless the .. all his days"
 - Asa's heart was "loyal all his days"
- Yet when rebuked by Hanani in **17.7-9**
 - **v10** ~ "Asa was angry with the seer .. put him in prison"
 - "Asa oppressed some of the people"
 - **v12** ~ "diseased ~ severe ~ did not seek the Lord"

Good – AND - Bad

- **2 Chr 15.17** ~ "What the heart of Asa was loyal all his days"
- **2 Chr 16.10, 12** ~ "angry – enraged – oppressed – did not seek"
- "How can the first statement hold true in light of what comes after?"
 - Asa's behavior & actions didn't reflect his heart

Loyalty Rewarded

- **Read 2 Chr 16.9a** ~ "For the eyes .. loyal to Him"
 - Another example of beautiful gem found amidst narrative
 - Not everyone loves history ~ Many find it boring
- God's desire is to have us rely upon Him in faith
 - When we do that we are rewarded
 - When we fail to do that, we are disappointed
- **Asa, facing a 1M man army 20 years earlier had said:**
 - "help us, O Lord our God, for we rest on You, and in Your name we go against this multitude"

"We rest on You, and in Your name we go"

It's not enough to believe these words in our hearts

We must also act upon them