

2 Chronicles 15:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And he went out to meet Asa, and said unto him, Hear ye me, Asa, and all Judah and Benjamin; The LORD is with you, while ye be with him; and if ye seek him, he will be found of you; but if ye forsake him, he will forsake you.

Analysis

Azariah's prophetic word to King Asa 'The LORD is with you, while ye be with him; and if ye seek him, he will be found of you; but if ye forsake him, he will forsake you' establishes a crucial conditional principle. God's covenant presence ('the LORD is with you') depends on faithful response ('while ye be with him'). This isn't works-salvation but covenant stipulation - those who truly know God seek Him and experience His presence. Conversely, forsaking God results in divine abandonment. This sobering warning balances promises of God's faithfulness with calls to human responsibility. In Christ, believers have security because Christ never forsakes the Father, and we're united to Him.

Historical Context

Delivered during Asa's reforms (c. 895 BCE) after victory over Ethiopia, this prophecy encouraged continued faithfulness while warning against complacency. Asa's later failure to seek God (16:12) proved the warning's relevance.

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Romans 2:1 – Judging others

Study Questions

1. How do you 'be with' God - what practices and attitudes demonstrate you're walking with Him?
2. Where might you be tempted to forsake God through neglect or disobedience, requiring fresh commitment?

Interlinear Text

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| וַיֵּצֵא | וְשָׁמַע וְיִרְאֶה | וְאָמַר אָסָא | לְפָנָיו | לֹוְיָה | וְיִשְׁמַע אָסָא | וְיִצְאֶה | וְיִשְׁמַע אָסָא | וְיִצְאֶה |
| And he went out H3318 | to meet H6440 | Asa H609 | and said H559 | H0 | unto him Hear H8085 | Asa H609 | | H3605 |

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| תְּדַרְשׁ הָוּ | אִמְצָא | לֹכֶם | אִם |
| is with you while ye be with him and if ye seek him he will be found | | H0 | H518 |
| H1875 | H4672 | | |
| יִשְׂרָאֵל בְּ | אֶתְכֶם: | יִשְׂרָאֵל בְּ | יִשְׂרָאֵל בְּ |
| him he will forsake | H853 | him he will forsake | H5900 |
| H5900 | H5900 | | |

Additional Cross-References

James 4:8 (Parallel theme): Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded.

2 Chronicles 24:20 (References Lord): And the Spirit of God came upon Zechariah the son of Jehoiada the priest, which stood above the people, and said unto them, Thus saith God, Why transgress ye the commandments of the LORD, that ye cannot prosper? because ye have forsaken the LORD, he hath also forsaken you.

2 Chronicles 15:4 (References Lord): But when they in their trouble did turn unto the LORD God of Israel, and sought him, he was found of them.

1 Chronicles 28:9 (References Lord): And thou, Solomon my son, know thou the God of thy father, and serve him with a perfect heart and with a willing mind: for the LORD searcheth all hearts, and understandeth all the imaginations of the thoughts: if thou seek him, he will be found of thee; but if thou forsake him, he will cast thee off for ever.

Hebrews 10:38 (Parallel theme): Now the just shall live by faith: but if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him.

2 Chronicles 15:15 (References Lord): And all Judah rejoiced at the oath: for they had sworn with all their heart, and sought him with their whole desire; and he was found of them: and the LORD gave them rest round about.

Hebrews 12:25 (Parallel theme): See that ye refuse not him that speaketh. For if they escaped not who refused him that spake on earth, much more shall not we escape, if we turn away from him that speaketh from heaven:

2 Chronicles 20:20 (References Lord): And they rose early in the morning, and went forth into the wilderness of Tekoa: and as they went forth, Jehoshaphat stood and said, Hear me, O Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem; Believe in the LORD your God, so shall ye be established; believe his prophets, so shall ye prosper.

2 Chronicles 13:12 (References Lord): And, behold, God himself is with us for our captain, and his priests with sounding trumpets to cry alarm against you. O children of Israel, fight ye not against the LORD God of your fathers; for ye shall not prosper.

Deuteronomy 20:1 (References Lord): When thou goest out to battle against thine enemies, and seest horses, and chariots, and a people more than thou, be not afraid of them: for the LORD thy God is with thee, which brought thee up out of the land of Egypt.

