

2 Chronicles 12 — “The Proudful Plummet & Devastating Downfall of King Rehoboam”

Let him who thinks he stands, take heed that he does not fall! (1 Corinthians 10:12)

When you think you're strong, BE CAREFUL! WHERE YOU THINK YOU'RE STRONG, ABLE, you've got it all together & you're *fine*, beware that you do not fall!

Mark this:

WARNINGS are actually quite loving. Warnings are God-like, Warnings are Loving, Warnings are Urgent, Warnings are Protective, Warnings are Directive/Purposeful (NOT do something/DO pursue something else).

THESIS — We'll see 3 most essential reminders for us in our lives as we walk with God as learn about Rehoboam's Sin, God's Holiness, Sin's Consequences, and God's Abundant Mercy.

1. Humbly **Cling** to Scripture (vv1)
2. Frequently **Consider** Sin's Consequences (vv2-12)
3. Vigilantly **Guard** Your Heart (vv13-16)

I. HUMBLY CLING TO SCRIPTURE! (1)

Rehoboam fell into the trap of SELF sufficiency, arguing and believing that “my power and the strength of my hand have gained me this wealth or strength” (Deut 8:17)

II. FREQUENTLY CONSIDER SINS'S CONSEQUENCES! (2-12)

A. Foreign Invasion (2-4)

B. Prophetic Revelation (5)

C. Widespread Humiliation/Contrition (6)

Historical Info. On Shishak, King of Egypt:

- Before Shishak, the kingdom of Egypt didn't really seem to be a big factor in the history of Israel once they were settled in Israel
- Shishak was *hugely* important in biblical history.
- He was able to bring UNITY and STRUCTURE and PURPOSE to the Egyptian nation.
- Shishak was Libyan, not a native Egyptian, **THOUGH THIS HELPED HIM** create a multinational army. And Shishak unified his army when Rehoboam SPLIT his nation apart
- In a king's victory report, he even provided us with an inventory of all the towns he conquered during this operation.
- The INSCRIPTION in which Shishak tells the world of all his accomplishments in this Palestinian campaign, he lists 150! cities that he crushed.
- Even though he defeated many towns and cities, he acknowledged **THAT HE DID NOT** conquer — Jerusalem. This harmonizes perfectly with the biblical record. He plundered but didn't destroy Jerusalem.

D. Undeserved Compassion (7)

E. Powerful Instruction (8)

Verses 9-12 — back to Shishak’s invasion & the aftermath

III. VIGILANTLY GUARD YOUR HEART! (13-16)

God’s inspired summary of Rehoboam’s life and kingship (v. 14)

We learn 4 things from v. 14:

1. the **REVIEW** — he did *evil*...
2. the **REASON** — *because*...
3. the **ROOT** — he did not set his *heart*...
4. the **RESOLVE** — to seek the LORD

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Remember: to “Seek God” (in verse 14) includes & marries 3 elements together (see 2 Chron 7:14 also):

- ❖ **Earnestness** (with your passion/desiring/hungry/passionate)
- ❖ **Constancy** (at all times)
- ❖ **Genuinely** (from the heart)

Conclusion:

THE WORD OF GOD must be our guide to help us and keep us from making self destructive decisions.

1. Regularly study God’s Word
2. Regularly contemplate God’s discipline
3. Specifically repent of sin
4. Regularly seek God’s Face

“ALL MEN — even kings and princes — must either BEND or BREAK before God.
They must either be humbled or be ruined by GOD” (Matthew Henry).

A few lessons from Cyril Barber on this account from King Rehoboam:

1. **Learn from the wise** — Rehoboam had a priceless heritage given to him in the Proverbs of his father, Solomon.
2. **Obey the word of God** — God speaks to us thru His Word. Don’t forsake it; cling and hold fast to it. Know it and follow it. The way you treat God’s Word is, in essence, how you treat and honor God. Honor it!
3. **Prioritize your walk with God** — What really matters in life (ultimately, and unfailingly) is your relationship with GOD. Cement it upon your heart to seek the LORD. Prioritize this above all else!

2 Chronicles 12 — “The Proudful Plummet & Devastating Downfall of King Rehoboam”**O Church Arise**

O church, arise, and put your armor on;
Hear the call of Christ our captain.
For now the weak can say that they are strong
In the strength that God has given.
With shield of faith and belt of truth,
We'll stand against the devil's lies.
An army bold, whose battle cry is love,
Reaching out to those in darkness.

Our call to war, to love the captive soul,
But to rage against the captor;
And with the sword that makes the wounded
whole,
We will fight with faith and valor.
When faced with trials on every side,
We know the outcome is secure.
And Christ will have the prize for which He died:
An inheritance of nations.

Come, see the cross, where love and mercy meet,
As the Son of God is stricken;
Then see His foes lie crushed beneath His feet,
For the Conqueror has risen!
And as the stone is rolled away,
And Christ emerges from the grave,
This victory march continues till the day
Ev'ry eye and heart shall see Him.

So Spirit, come, put strength in every stride;
Give grace for every hurdle.
That we may run with faith to win the prize
Of a servant good and faithful.
As saints of old, still line the way,
Retelling triumphs of His grace,
We hear their calls, and hunger for the day
When with Christ we stand in Glory.

Marvelous Grace of Our Loving Lord (Grace Greater Than All Our Sin)

Marvelous grace of our loving Lord,
grace that exceeds our sin and our guilt,
yonder on Calvary's mount out-poured,
there where the blood of the Lamb was spilt.

*Grace, grace, God's grace,
grace that will pardon and cleanse within;
grace, grace, God's grace,
grace that is greater than all our sin.*

Dark is the stain that we cannot hide,
what can avail to wash it away!
Look! there is flowing a crimson tide;
whiter than snow you may be today. [Refrain]

Marvelous, infinite, matchless grace,
freely bestowed on all who believe;
you that are longing to see his face,
will you this moment his grace receive?

His Robes For Mine

His robes for mine: O wonderful exchange!
Clothed in my sin, Christ suffered 'neath God's rage.
Draped in His righteousness, I'm justified.
In Christ I live, for in my place He died.

*I cling to Christ, and marvel at the cost:
Jesus forsaken, God estranged from God.
Bought by such love, my life is not my own.
My praise-my all-shall be for Christ alone.*

His robes for mine: what cause have I for dread?
God's daunting Law Christ mastered in my stead.
Faultless I stand with righteous works not mine,
Saved by my Lord's vicarious death and life.

His robes for mine: God's justice is appeased.
Jesus is crushed, and thus the Father's pleased.
Christ drank God's wrath on sin, then cried "'Tis
done!"
Sin's wage is paid; propitiation won.

His robes for mine: such anguish none can know.
Christ, God's beloved, condemned as though His
foe.
He, as though I, accursed and left alone;
I, as though He, embraced and welcomed home!