

# Asa – good start, sad ending

## *2 Chronicles 14-16*

***It's not how you start that counts  
- but how you finish***

***In his youth, Asa began as***

### **1. A Great Spiritual Reformer, 14.1-7**

- ***he removed foreign gods and folk religions v3; 1 Ki 15.12***
- ***he commanded the nation to seek the one true living God v4  
his spirituality was personal v2  
historical v4; corporate v7***
- ***he was commended, and rewarded with peace and prosperity vs1-2,5-7***

***In a time of crisis, Asa continued as***

### **2. A Great Man of Prayer, 14.8-11**

- ***an unprovoked attack v9; Jas 1.2-4;  
an opportunity for faith 1 Pet 1.6-7***

**overwhelming opposition v8-10**

➤ **an inspiring prayer v11**

**God's uniqueness**

**God's assistance**

**our reliance on him**

**his honour at stake**

**total confidence**

**In middle age, Asa was**

**3. Urged to Keep Going, 15.1-17**

➤ **a prophetic word, vs 1-7**

- **reassurance and warning v2**

**John 15.4-6**

- **illustration from history vs 3-6**

- **exhortation and promise v7**

**“Be strong, don't give up,  
you will be rewarded”**

**Gal 6.9; 1 Cor 15.58**

- **immediate impact v8**

**the power of God's Word**

**1 Thess 2.13**

- **missionary zeal , vs 8-19**
    - **removals and repairs v8**
    - **impact on others v9**
    - **solemn covenant vs 10-15**
- seek God eagerly, wholeheartedly**

***In his final years, Asa***

#### **4. Fell at the Last Hurdle, 16.1-14**

- **another challenge, vs 1-6**
  - but a pact with the enemy v3**
- **another prophet, vs 7-9**
  - but fierce resentment v10**
- **another opportunity, v12**
  - but no change of heart v12**

***“The Lord looks for those  
who are fully committed to him”  
- relying on Him to the very end  
2 Tim 4.7-8***