

A Solemn Assembly 3

Review – Solemn Assembly 2 (Print out)

2 Chron 15:1-8

15:1 Now the Spirit of God came upon Azariah the son of Oded. 2 And he went out to meet Asa, and said to him: "Hear me, Asa, and all Judah and Benjamin. The LORD is with you while you are with Him. If you seek Him, He will be found by you; but if you forsake Him, He will forsake you. 3 For a long time Israel has been without the true God, without a teaching priest, and without law; 4 but when in their trouble they turned to the LORD God of Israel, and sought Him, He was found by them. 5 And in those times there was no peace to the one who went out, nor to the one who came in, but great turmoil was on all the inhabitants of the lands. 6 So nation was destroyed by nation, and city by city, for God troubled them with every adversity. 7 But you, be strong and do not let your hands be weak, for your work shall be rewarded!"

8 And when Asa heard these words and the prophecy of Oded the prophet, he took courage, and removed the abominable idols from all the land of Judah and Benjamin and from the cities which he had taken in the mountains of Ephraim; and he restored the altar of the LORD that was before the vestibule of the LORD.

OT:5749

ʿuwd (ood); a primitive root; to duplicate or repeat; by implication, to protest, testify (as by reiteration); intensively, to encompass, **restore** (as a sort of reduplication):

2 Chron 15:8-19

9 Then he gathered all **Judah** (celebration) and **Benjamin**, (Right Hand) and those who dwelt with them from **Ephraim, Manasseh, and Simeon**, for they came over to him in great numbers from Israel **when they saw that the LORD his God was with him.**

10 So they gathered together at Jerusalem in the third month, in the fifteenth year of the reign of Asa.

11 And they offered to the LORD at that time seven hundred bulls and seven thousand sheep from the spoil they had brought.

12 Then they **entered into a covenant to seek the LORD God** of their fathers with all their heart and with all their soul;

13 and whoever would not seek the LORD God of Israel **was to be put to death**, whether small or great, whether man or woman.

14 Then they took an oath before the LORD with a loud voice, with shouting and trumpets and rams' horns.

15 And all Judah rejoiced at the oath, for they had sworn with all their heart and sought Him with all their soul; and He was found by them, and the **LORD gave them rest all around.**

16 Also he removed **Maachah**, the mother of Asa the king, from being queen mother, because she had made an obscene image of **Asherah**; and Asa cut down her obscene image, **then crushed and burned it** by the **Brook Kidron.**

17 But the **high places were not removed from Israel.** Nevertheless the heart of Asa was loyal all his days.

18 He also brought into the house of God the things that his father had dedicated and that he himself had dedicated: silver and gold and utensils.

19 And there **was no war** until the thirty-fifth year of the reign of Asa.

2 Chronicles 15:9-15 - Asa called a Solemn Assembly in Jerusalem where the people entered into a covenant to seek the Lord God of their fathers with all their hearts and with all their souls.

2 Chron 15:9; 2 Chron 15:10

2 Chronicles 15:9

And he gathered all Judah and Benjamin, and the strangers with them out of Ephraim and Manasseh, and out of Simeon: for they fell to him out of Israel in abundance, when they saw that the LORD his God was with him.

He gathered all Judah and Benjamin. Not satisfied with these minor measures of purification and improvement, Asa meditated a grand scheme, which was, to pledge his whole kingdom to complete the work of reformation, and with this view waited for a general assembly of the people.

And the strangers with them out of Ephraim and Manasseh. The population of Asa's kingdom had been vastly increased by the continued influx of strangers, who, prompted by motives either of interest or of piety, sought in his dominions that security and freedom which they could not enjoy amid the complicated troubles which distracted Israel.

And out of Simeon. Although a portion of that tribe, located within the territory of Judah, were already subjects of the southern kingdom, the general body of the Simeonites had joined in forming the northern kingdom of Israel. But many of them now returned of their own accord.

2 Chronicles 15:10

So they gathered themselves together at Jerusalem in the third month, in the fifteenth year of the reign of Asa. The third month-when was held the feast of Pentecost which, on this occasion, was celebrated at Jerusalem by an extraordinary sacrifice of 700 oxen and 7,000 sheep, the spoil of the Ethiopians being offered; and the assembled worshippers entered with great and holy enthusiasm into a national covenant [bab^ariyt (OT:1285), into the covenant-phraseology borrowed from the Pentateuch, "to seek the Lord God of their fathers with all their heart, and with all their soul;" and, at the same time, to execute with rigour the laws which made idolatry punishable with death (Ex 22:20; Deut 17:2-5; 29:12-21; Heb 10:28).] It is evident that there had been a covenant already in existence-the purport of which, as described, Ex 20; 24; Deut 29:1, is here substantially repeated. The people testified unbounded satisfaction with this important religious movements; and its moral influence was seen in the promotion of piety, order, and tranquillity throughout the land.