



KEYS TO
VICTORIOUS LIVING

2 Chronicles 17 -20

Last Week, We Examined Psalm 1
“The Blessed Person”

3 Keys To Victorious Living

Separation....

Scripture....

Success....

Introduction

It is always good to study **GREAT BIBLICAL CHARACTERS** because they give us **AN EXAMPLE** to follow
1 Corinthians 10:11 (ESV)

11 Now **these things happened to them as an example**, but they were written down for our instruction...

The Bible highlights **THEIR STRENGTHS AS WELL AS THEIR WEAKNESSES**.

King Jehoshaphat was one of Judah's greatest kings, but he was **NOT EXEMPT** from making mistakes.

Although he had the **FAVOR OF GOD ON HIS LIFE**, he still was **NOT FLAWLESS**.

In this study, we will see how **his walk**, **his obedience**, and **his faithfulness**
ENABLED HIM TO SEE POSITIVE RESULTS AND EXPERIENCE A VICTORIOUS LIFE

Many Christians are frustrated with God and the church because they feel they are doing good and not
getting the results they desired. They feel they have given up some habits and
SHOULD SEE AMAZING RESULTS OVERNIGHT.

God's Word **PROMISES RESULTS**, but it requires **complete obedience and dependence on God**.

In 2 Chronicles, King Jehoshaphat gives **A MODEL** for believers to get **VICTORIOUS RESULTS** from God.

3 Keys Involved

Establish A Solid Foundation

Believe That God Honors Faithfulness

Don't Allow Prosperity To Create Unhealthy Partnerships

Key #1 ~ Establish A Solid Foundation

Victory Begins With Being Proactive

2 Chronicles 17:1-2 (NLT)

- 1 Then Jehoshaphat, Asa's son, **became the next king**. He strengthened Judah to stand against any attack from Israel.*
 - 2 He stationed troops in all the fortified towns of Judah, and he assigned additional garrisons to the land of Judah and to the towns of Ephraim that his father, Asa, had captured.*
-

Be Careful To Identify Your Weak Areas

*This requires **EXAMINATION** and **PREPARATION***

Many of us make the mistake of seeking what God has for us without...

- 1. **Counting The Cost***
- 2. **Preparing For Opposition***
- 3. **Identifying Our Weakness/Strengths***

THIS IS THE SEASON OF PREPARATION

Key #1 ~ Establish A Solid Foundation

Victory Begins With Being Proactive

Nehemiah Example

Nehemiah 2:12-19 (NIV)

12 I set out during the night *with a few men*. *I had not told anyone what my God had put in my heart to do* for Jerusalem...13 By night I went out through the Valley Gate toward the Jackal Well and the Dung Gate, *examining the walls of Jerusalem*, which had been broken down, and its gates, which had been destroyed by fire. 14 Then I moved on toward the Fountain Gate and the King's Pool, but there was not enough room for my mount to get through; 15 *so I went up the valley by night, examining the wall....*

16 *The officials did not know where I had gone or what I was doing, because as yet I had said nothing to the Jews or the priests or nobles or officials or any others who would be doing the work.*

PREPARATION MEETS PRODUCTIVITY

17 **THEN I SAID TO THEM**, "You see the trouble we are in: Jerusalem lies in ruins, and its gates have been burned with fire. **Come, let us rebuild the wall of Jerusalem**, and we will no longer be in disgrace."

18 I also told them about the gracious hand of my God upon me and what the king had said to me.

They replied, "LET US START REBUILDING." SO THEY BEGAN THIS GOOD WORK.

19 But when Sanballat the Horonite, Tobiah the Ammonite official and Geshem the Arab heard about it, *they mocked and ridiculed us*. "What is this you are doing?" they asked. "Are you rebelling against the king?"

Key #1 ~ Establish A Solid Foundation

Winning Is Connected To Your Walk

2 Chronicles 17:3-4 (NIV)

3 The Lord was with Jehoshaphat because in his early years
he walked in the ways his father David had followed.

Psalms 84:11 (ESV)

11 For the Lord God is a sun and shield; the Lord bestows favor and honor.
No good thing does he withhold from those who WALK UPRIGHTLY.

Psalms 119:1 (NASB)

1 How blessed are those whose way is blameless, **WHO WALK** in the law of the Lord.

Proverbs 28:6 (NASB)

6 Better is the poor **WHO WALKS IN HIS INTEGRITY** Than he who is crooked though he is rich.

Galatians 5:16 (NASB)

16 But I say, **WALK BY THE SPIRIT**, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh.

Key #1 ~ Establish A Solid Foundation

Don't Accept Contaminated Counsel

2 Chronicles 17:4 (NIV)

He did not seek the Baals, 4 but sought the God of his father, followed His commandments and did not act as Israel did.

Psalms 1:1 (NIV)

1 Blessed is the man who does not walk **IN THE COUNSEL OF THE WICKED...**

Not All Foolish Counsel Comes From Without... Sometimes It Is Within

Jeremiah 7:22-24 (NIV)

22 For when I brought your forefathers out of Egypt and spoke to them, I did not just give them commands about burnt offerings and sacrifices, 23 **but I gave them this command:**

*Obey me, and I will be your God and you will be my people. WALK IN ALL THE WAYS I command you, that it may go well with you. 24 But they did not listen or pay attention; **instead, they followed the stubborn inclinations of their evil hearts. THEY WENT BACKWARD AND NOT FORWARD.***

Key #1 ~ Establish A Solid Foundation

Teaching Should Always Precede Transformation

*The Foundation For Victory Is Established Trough **TEACHING AND TRAINING***

2 Chronicles 17:7-9 (NIV)

*7 In the third year of his reign he sent his officials Ben-Hail, Obadiah, Zechariah, Nethanel and Micaiah **TO TEACH IN THE TOWNS OF JUDAH.***

*9 **THEY TAUGHT THROUGHOUT JUDAH,** taking with them **THE BOOK OF THE LAW OF THE LORD;** they went around to all the towns of Judah and **TAUGHT THE PEOPLE.***

*The Bible often says, Jesus went about teaching the Kingdom... teaching through parables...
Before you experience transformation...teaching must be involved...*

Luke 5:3-4, 6

*3 And Jesus got into one of the boats, which was Simon's, and asked him to put out a little way from the land. And He sat down and **BEGAN TEACHING THE PEOPLE FROM THE BOAT.** 4 **When He had finished speaking,** He said to Simon, "Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch."*

*6 **When they had done this, they enclosed a great quantity of fish, and their nets began to break...***

Key #1 ~ Establish A Solid Foundation

Teaching Is A Threat To Those Who Have Power

Acts 4:1-2 (NLT)

1 While Peter and John were speaking to the people, they were confronted by the priests, the captain of the Temple guard, and some of the Sadducees. 2 These leaders were very disturbed that Peter and John
WERE TEACHING THE PEOPLE...

God Has A Higher Standard Because Of The Power Of Teaching That Transforms

James 3:1 (NLT)

1 Dear brothers and sisters, not many of you ***SHOULD BECOME TEACHERS IN THE CHURCH,***
FOR WE WHO TEACH WILL BE JUDGED MORE STRICTLY.

God Expects A Greater Reward For Those Who Diligently Prepare To Teach

1 Timothy 5:17 (ESV)

17 Let the elders who rule well be considered worthy of double honor,
ESPECIALLY THOSE WHO LABOR IN PREACHING AND TEACHING.

Key #1 ~ Establish A Solid Foundation

❖ *Be Careful To Identify Your Weak/Vulnerable Areas {Be Proactive}*

❖ *Be Careful To Walk Upright*

❖ *Be Mindful Of The Counsel You Receive*

❖ *Be Prepared Through Teaching Before Transformation*

Key #2 ~ Believe That God Honors Faithfulness

2 Chronicles 17:4-5 (NLT)

4 He sought his father's God and obeyed his commands instead of following the evil practices of the kingdom of Israel. 5 **SO THE LORD ESTABLISHED JEHOSHAPHAT'S CONTROL OVER THE KINGDOM** of Judah. All the people of Judah brought gifts to Jehoshaphat, **SO HE BECAME VERY WEALTHY AND HIGHLY ESTEEMED.**

His Practices/Walk Caused Him To Prosper/Be Blessed

2 Samuel 5:12 (NKJV)

12 So David knew that **THE LORD HAD ESTABLISHED HIM AS KING OVER ISRAEL,** and that **HE HAD EXALTED HIS KINGDOM** for the sake of His people Israel.

Psalms 75:6-7 (KJV)

6 For **PROMOTION** comes neither from the east, nor from the west, nor from the south.
7 But God is the judge: **HE** puts down one and sets up another.

Key #2 ~ Believe That God Honors Faithfulness

He Blesses Through Various Sources

The EXPECTED SOURCE...

2 Chronicles 17:4-5 (NLT)

*5 ... All the people of Judah brought gifts to Jehoshaphat,
SO HE BECAME VERY WEALTHY AND HIGHLY ESTEEMED.*

God Also Blesses Through Unexpected Sources

2 Chronicles 17:10-11 (NIV)

10 The fear of the Lord fell on all the kingdoms of the lands surrounding Judah so that they did not make war with Jehoshaphat. 11 SOME PHILISTINES brought Jehoshaphat gifts and silver as tribute, and THE ARABS brought him flocks: seven thousand seven hundred rams and seven thousand seven hundred goats.

Proverbs 13:22 (NASB)

*22 A good man leaves an inheritance to his children's children,
And THE WEALTH OF THE SINNER is STORED UP FOR THE RIGHTEOUS.*

Exodus 3:21 (ESV)

21 And I will give this people favor in the sight of the Egyptians; and when you go, you shall not go empty,

Key #2 ~ Believe That God Honors Faithfulness

Why Is This Important?

*Many People Are Trying To **CLIMB THE LADDER OF SUCCESS** Through **Worldly Methods**...*

Matthew 6:33 (ESV)

*33 But seek **FIRST** the kingdom of God and his righteousness,
and all these things **WILL BE ADDED** to you.*

Deuteronomy 8:18 (ESV)

*18 You shall remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you **POWER TO GET WEALTH**,
that he may confirm his covenant that he swore to your fathers, as it is this day.*

*He Gives **THE POWER** and **THE PRINCIPLES**...*

*It Is Up To You To **APPLY IT!!!***

Key #3 ~ Don't Allow Prosperity To Create Unhealthy Partnerships

2 Chronicles 18:1-7 (NLT)

1 Jehoshaphat *enjoyed great riches and high esteem*, and **HE MADE AN ALLIANCE WITH AHAB** of Israel by having his son marry Ahab's daughter. 2 A few years later he went to Samaria to visit Ahab, who prepared a great banquet for him and his officials. They butchered great numbers of sheep, goats, and cattle for the feast. Then Ahab enticed Jehoshaphat to join forces with him to recover Ramoth-gilead.

3 "Will you go with me to Ramoth-gilead?" King Ahab of Israel asked King Jehoshaphat of Judah. Jehoshaphat replied, "**Why, of course! You and I are as one, and my troops are your troops. WE WILL CERTAINLY JOIN YOU IN BATTLE.**"

Who Is Ahab?

1 Kings 16:33

33 *Ahab did more to provoke the anger of the Lord*, the God of Israel, **THAN ANY OF THE OTHER KINGS OF ISRAEL BEFORE HIM.**

1 Kings 21:25

25 **NO ONE ELSE** so *completely sold himself to what was evil in the Lord's sight as Ahab...*

Key #3 ~ Don't Allow Prosperity To Create Unhealthy Partnerships

2 Chronicles 18:1-7 (NLT)

1 Jehoshaphat *enjoyed great riches and high esteem*, and *HE MADE AN ALLIANCE WITH AHAB...*

Words of Warning

James 4:4 (NLT)

4 You adulterers! Don't you realize that *friendship with the world makes you an enemy of God*? I say it again:
If you want to be a *friend of the world*, you make yourself an enemy of God.

2 Corinthians 6:14-15 (NIV)

14 Do not be *yoked together with unbelievers*. For what do righteousness and wickedness have in common?
Or what fellowship *can light have with darkness*? 15 What *harmony is there between Christ and Belial*?

WHAT DOES A BELIEVER HAVE IN COMMON WITH AN UNBELIEVER?

Matthew 11:29-30 (NIV)

29 *Take my yoke upon you and learn from me*, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.
30 *For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.*"

Hebrews 11:24-25 (NIV)

24 By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be known as the son of Pharaoh's daughter.
25 *He chose to be mistreated along with the people of God rather than enjoy the pleasures of sin* for a short time.

Key #3 ~ Don't Allow Prosperity To Create Unhealthy Partnerships

We Just Friends Mentality...

Friendships Become Fellowships ~ The Danger of Simple Meetings With Secret Motives

Nehemiah 6:2-4 (NIV)

2 Sanballat and Geshem sent me this message: "**COME, LET US MEET TOGETHER** in one of the villages on the plain of Ono." **BUT THEY WERE SCHEMING TO HARM ME**; 3 so I sent messengers to them with this reply: "I am carrying on a great project and cannot go down. *Why should the work stop while I leave it and go down to you?*"
4 **FOUR TIMES THEY SENT ME THE SAME MESSAGE, AND EACH TIME I GAVE THEM THE SAME ANSWER.**

Unhealthy Alliances Bring In Unnecessary Adversaries

2 Chronicles 18:3 (NIV)

3 Ahab king of Israel asked Jehoshaphat king of Judah, "**Will you go with me against Ramoth Gilead?**"
Jehoshaphat replied, "I am as you are, and my people as your people; we will join you in the war."

Are You Connected With People That Constantly Cause You Conflict...

Genesis 13:7-8 (NIV)

7 And quarreling arose **between Abram's herdsmen and the herdsmen of Lot**. The Canaanites and Perizzites were also living in the land at that time. 8 So Abram said to Lot, "**Let's not have any quarreling between you and me, or between your herdsmen and mine, for WE ARE BROTHERS.**"

Key #3 ~ Don't Allow Prosperity To Create Unhealthy Partnerships

Unhealthy Friendships Often Go Against Foundational Principles

2 Chronicles 18:3-7 (NLT)

3 "Will you go with me to Ramoth-gilead?" King Ahab of Israel asked King Jehoshaphat of Judah. Jehoshaphat replied, "Why, of course! You and I are as one, and my troops are your troops. We will certainly join you in battle." 4 **Then Jehoshaphat added, "But first let's find out what the Lord says."** 5 So the king of Israel summoned the prophets, 400 of them, and asked them, "Should we go to war against Ramoth-Gilead, or should I hold back?" **They all replied, "Yes, go right ahead! God will give the king victory."** 6 But Jehoshaphat asked, **"Is there not also a prophet of the Lord here? We should ask him the same question."** 7 The king of Israel replied to Jehoshaphat, "There is **one more man** who could consult the Lord for us, **BUT I HATE HIM. He never prophesies anything but trouble for me!** His name is Micaiah..."

His Foundation says CONSULT WITH GOD...

The Corrupt Counsel says THAT'S NOT THAT IMPORTANT...

The Holy Spirit Gives Correct Counsel ~ Be Careful Not To Compromise... {That Bell Will Ring}

John 16:13 (NLT)

13 When the Spirit of truth comes, **HE WILL GUIDE YOU INTO ALL TRUTH.**

He will not speak on his own but will tell you what he has heard. He will **TELL YOU ABOUT THE FUTURE.**

Key #3 ~ Don't Allow Prosperity To Create Unhealthy Partnerships

A Solid Foundation Will Allow A Fall But Will Not Allow The Fall To Be Fatal

2 Chronicles 18:28-32 (NLT)

28 So King Ahab of Israel and King Jehoshaphat of Judah led their armies against Ramoth-Gilead.

29 The king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, *“As we go into battle, I will disguise myself so no one will recognize me, but you wear your royal robes.”* So the king of Israel disguised himself, and they went into battle.

30 Meanwhile, the king of Aram had issued these orders to his chariot commanders: *“Attack only the king of Israel! Don't bother with anyone else.”*

31 So when the Aramean chariot commanders saw Jehoshaphat in his royal robes, they went after him. *“There is the king of Israel!”* they shouted. **BUT JEHOSEPHAT CALLED OUT, AND THE LORD SAVED HIM. GOD HELPED HIM BY TURNING THE ATTACKERS AWAY FROM HIM.**

32 As soon as the chariot commanders realized he was not the king of Israel, they stopped chasing him.

Be Grateful That The Mercy Of God Is Displayed Despite Bad Decisions

- He called out and the Lord heard and helped
- God did not allow disaster despite his decision

Psalms 103:10 (NASB)

10 He has not dealt with us according to our sins, Nor rewarded us according to our iniquities.

Key #3 ~ Don't Allow Prosperity To Create Unhealthy Partnerships

A Solid Foundation Will Allow A Fall But Will Not Allow The Fall To Be Fatal

Walking In Spiritual Victory Includes Failures That Are Not FINAL...

2 Chronicles 19:1-3 (NASB)

- 1 Then Jehoshaphat the king of Judah **RETURNED IN SAFETY TO HIS HOUSE IN JERUSALEM.**
- 2 Jehu, the seer went out to meet him and said to King Jehoshaphat, "*Should you help the wicked and love those who hate the Lord and so bring wrath on yourself from the Lord?*"
- 3 "**BUT THERE IS SOME GOOD IN YOU**, for you have removed the Asheroth from the land and **YOU HAVE SET YOUR HEART TO SEEK GOD.**"

To Continue In Victorious Living ~ Restoration Welcomes Rebuke ~ Change Welcomes Correction

2 Timothy 3:16-17 (NLT)

- 16 All Scripture is inspired by God and is *useful to teach us what is true* and to *make us realize what is wrong in our lives.* It **CORRECTS** us when we are wrong and **TEACHES US** to do what is right.
- 17 God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work.

In Conclusion....

3 Keys Involved

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Believe That God Honors Faithfulness

- ❖ *Your Practice/Walk Can Cause You To Prosper/Be Blessed*
 - ❖ *He Blesses Through Various Sources*

Don't Allow Prosperity To Create Unhealthy Partnerships

- ❖ *Unhealthy Alliances Bring In Unnecessary Adversaries*
- ❖ *The Holy Spirit Gives Correct Counsel ~ Be Careful Not To Compromise...*
 - ❖ *Be Grateful That The Mercy Of God Is Displayed Despite Bad Decisions*

*Celebrate Our 143rd Church Anniversary
Sunday, October 16, 2022*

*Church Family Fellowship/Celebration @ 11 AM
Target All Of Our Members*

Pack The Pew Guest Celebration @ 2 PM

*Guest For Pack The Pew
Dr. Robby Dale Williams
St. Rest Baptist Church, Minden LA*

Celebrate Our 143rd Church Anniversary

Financial Goal

100 Members/Friends/Ministry Partners ~ \$143 Gift

*25 Filled Pews {10 seats to pew} ~ \$20 offering gift
Leaders have been selected for each pew...*

Intentional In Our Approach

25 people to start this week ~ 21st – 27th

25 Next Week ~ 28th – 4th

25 Next Week ~ 5th – 11th

25 Final Week ~ 12th – 16th

Celebrate Our 143rd Church Anniversary

Exodus 35:4-5 (NLT)

4 Then Moses said to the whole community of Israel, “This is what the Lord has commanded:

5 *Take a sacred offering for the Lord. Let those with GENEROUS HEARTS present the following gifts to the Lord: gold, silver, and bronze...*

Exodus 35:21 (NLT)

21 *All whose hearts were stirred and whose spirits were moved came and brought their sacred offerings to the Lord.*

Exodus 36:6-7 (NLT)

6 So Moses gave the command, and this message was sent throughout the camp: “Men and women, *don’t prepare any more gifts for the sanctuary. WE HAVE ENOUGH!*”

So the people stopped bringing their sacred offerings.

7 *Their contributions were more than enough to complete the whole project.*

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Fall 2022 High School Day

OCTOBER 29, 2022

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**PRE-PAID: \$30.00
ON-SITE: \$35.00
GROUPS (10+) : \$25.00**



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Planned activities include greetings with President Richard “Rick” Gallot and Miss Grambling State University, an academic informational session, and entertainment by the World Famed Tiger Marching Band, the Orchesis Dance Company, and the GSU Cheerleaders! The cost for the event is \$25 (pre-paid) which includes a t-shirt, lunch, and game ticket. The game begins at 2 PM. GSU vs Alcorn State