

THE GOOD THE BAD AND THE UGLY

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• KINGS & CHRONICLES •

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First
THINKERS

BE CAREFUL WHO YOU RIDE WITH | 2 CHRONICLES 17-20

“ Then Jehoshaphat, Asa’s son, became the next king. He strengthened Judah to stand against any attack from Israel.”

~ 2 CHRONICLES 17:1 (NLT)

“ ... ‘bad company corrupts good character.’ Think carefully about what is right...”

~ 1 CORINTHIANS 15:33B-34A (NLT)

A GOOD KING OFF TO _____.

“ The Lord was with Jehoshaphat because he followed the example of his father’s early years and did not worship the images of Baal. 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. ⁶ He was deeply committed to the ways of the Lord. He removed the pagan shrines and Asherah poles from Judah.”

~ 2 CHRONICLES 17:3-6 (NLT)

Teaching _____.

“ ⁷ In the third year of his reign Jehoshaphat sent his officials to teach in all the towns of Judah. These officials included Ben-hail, Obadiah, Zechariah, Nethanel, and Micaiah. ⁹ They took copies of the Book of the Law of the Lord and traveled around through all the towns of Judah, teaching the people. ¹⁰ Then the fear of the Lord fell over all the surrounding kingdoms so that none of them wanted to declare war on Jehoshaphat.”

~ 2 CHRONICLES 17:7, 9-10 (NLT)

A GOOD KING MAKES SOME _____.

A Bad _____.

“ 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.’

⁴ Then Jehoshaphat added, ‘But first let’s find out what the Lord says.’”

~ 2 CHRONICLES 18:1-4 (NLT)

Ignoring _____.



Open Your Bible to
2 Chronicles 18:11-14
to follow along.

“ Then Zedekiah son of Kenaanah walked up to Micaiah and slapped him across the face. ‘Since when did the Spirit of the Lord leave me to speak to you?’ he demanded.”

~ 2 CHRONICLES 18:23 (NLT)

Caught in a _____.



Open Your Bible to
2 Chronicles 18:28-29 to follow along.



Open Your Bible to 2 Chronicles 18:33-34 to follow along.

“ When King Jehoshaphat of Judah arrived safely home in Jerusalem, ² Jehu son of Hanani the seer went out to meet him. ‘Why should you help the wicked and love those who hate the Lord?’ he asked the king. ‘Because of what you have done, the Lord is very angry with you. ³ Even so, there is some good in you, for you have removed the Asherah poles throughout the land, and you have committed yourself to seeking God.’”

~ 2 CHRONICLES 19:1-3 (NLT)



Open Your Bible to 2 Chronicles 20:1-4 to follow along.

A GOOD KING MAKES _____ .

“ ²⁹ When all the surrounding kingdoms heard that the Lord himself had fought against the enemies of Israel, the fear of God came over them. ³⁰ So Jehoshaphat’s kingdom was at peace, for his God had given him rest on every side.”

~ 2 CHRONICLES 20:29-30 (NLT)

“ Jehoshaphat was a good king, following the ways of his father, Asa. He did what was pleasing in the Lord’s sight.”

~ 2 CHRONICLES 20:32 (NLT)

A GOOD KING GETS CAUGHT IN _____ .

“ Some time later King Jehoshaphat of Judah made an alliance with King Ahaziah of Israel, who was very wicked. ³⁶ Together they built a fleet of trading ships at the port of Ezion-geber. ³⁷ Then Eliezer son of Dodavahu from Mareshah prophesied against Jehoshaphat. He said, ‘Because you have allied yourself with King Ahaziah, the Lord will destroy your work.’ So the ships met with disaster and never put out to sea.”

~ 2 CHRONICLES 20:35-37 (NLT)

SO WHAT?

Be careful
Who you ride with.

A faithful _____ .

Honest _____ .

“ Don’t team up with those who are unbelievers. How can righteousness be a partner with wickedness? How can light live with darkness?”

~ 2 CORINTHIANS 6:14 (NLT)

“ Who can find a virtuous and capable wife?
She is more precious than rubies.

¹¹ Her husband can trust her,
and she will greatly enrich his life.

¹² She brings him good, not harm,
all the days of her life”

~ PROVERBS 31:10-12 (NLT)

Godly _____ .

“ The godly give good advice to their friends;
the wicked lead them astray.”

~ PROVERBS 12:26 (NLT)

DISCUSSION Questions:

- 1- Who has made the greatest impact in your life for Good?
- 2- Who has led you astray repeatedly in your life? Why?
- 3- Read 2 Chronicles 18, when was a time you ignored the warnings and paid the price for bad decisions in your life? What happened?
- 4- Read 2 Chronicles 19, why do you think people get sucked into bad partnerships and situations? How can we recognize those early to avoid the natural consequences?
- 5- Read 2 Chronicles 20, everybody loves a comeback. List off the things that Jehoshaphat does right in this passage. What are the results of his actions?

“ Walk with the wise and become wise;
associate with fools and get in trouble.”

~ PROVERBS 13:20 (NLT)

- 6- The SO WHAT Idea is not to cut people out of your life, but to be very careful about the people you let into your innermost circle. Is there someone you want to invite into that circle to help draw you closer to God? Who?



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