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The darkness will pass, and God's faithfulness endures

Chapter 21 of the Book of Chronicles deals with the ruler of Jehoshaphat, the king of Judah, and God's punishment for him. Here is a detailed summary:

Jehoram succeeded his father Jehoshaphat as king of Judah and ruled from 848 to 841 BCE. Jehoram ruled differently from his ancestors David and Jehoshaphat, who followed the idolatry of King Ahab of Israel and introduced it to the kingdom of Judah. He also established idolatrous altars in Jerusalem and the cities of Judah, and indulged in sexual immorality among the Jews.

Therefore, God was angry with Jehoram and his country and sent Edomites and Libyans against Judah. At this time, Jehoram was sick, and he prayed to God for help during his illness, but God rejected his prayer. After Jehoram's death, his son Ahaziah succeeded him as king of Judah.

Chapter 21 tells of Jehoshaphat's death and his son Jehoram succeeding him as king. Jehoshaphat's marriage to King Ahab of Israel laid the seeds for Judah in the south, and it eventually bore bad results. Jehoram married Ahab's daughter, turned away from God's Word in every way, and was judged by God. We usually think that since God is in the midst of the protection, we should use the good king to continue the light, so that it is perfect. But we must admit that no one can guarantee that it will be better if another person becomes king; So when we look at the problem, we don't ask why God doesn't appoint a good king to continue the light

of David's house, but we look with hope that even though the evil king is in power, God is still in the midst of keeping the light of David's house from extinction.

Darkness, sin, and all bad things will pass away, but God's faithfulness endures forever. Chapters 21 and 22 are a unit that mentions Jehoram and Ahaziah, two bad kings. From chapter 21 onwards, the house of Judah entered a very dark time because of the rise of these two kings, yet God was still keeping them in it, "But the LORD will not destroy David's house because of his covenant with David, and give a lamp to David and his son for ever, as he has promised." (v.7). Although Jehoram's wickedness brought harm to his wife and children, God was faithful and "refused to destroy David's house" (cf. v.7), leaving a little lifeline for the house of Judah, the youngest son, Jehoahaz, who "left no son" but him. As for Joram, in his later years he was in great pain, unable to eat or drink, and confined to bed. "After these things, the LORD afflicted Joram's bowels with an incurable disease. He suffered from this disease for a long time, and after two years his intestines fell and he became seriously ill and died." (v.18-19a) Because Joram walked in the wicked ways of the house of Ahab, and fell into the hands of the Lord, God gave him no grace. God foreknew that David's descendants would do evil like Joram, and he gave serious warnings again and again (7:19–21; Deuteronomy 28); But God's foreknowledge does not prevent him from making promises, nor does it mean that he prevents corruption from happening every time. For what man sees is what is in front of him, but God sees all people, things, and things in eternity. He was amazed to see that our source was Adam, and that Adam's descendants did not sin. But God's mercy is on sinners, so God left Joram with 'Jehoahaz the youngest' (v.17) to inherit David's throne. For God's promises are not nullified by human ignorance and sin, but are to be fulfilled by His own "mouth and hands" (6:15). God's prophecy to Jehoram through Elijah was fully fulfilled! After Joram's death, the people did not burn incense for him (v.19) or mourn. And his body was not buried in 'the tombs of kings.' It can be seen that his evil deeds during his lifetime caused public outrage. In addition to Jehoram, Joash and Uzziah were not buried in the kings' tombs because of their wicked deeds in their lives (24:25; 26: 23). The separation of the tomb of the wicked from the tomb of the righteous means that after death, the soul of the righteous and the soul of the wicked will also be separated forever. That is, at the end of the day, the righteous will be resurrected to life, and the wicked will be raised to condemnation (John 5:28, 29).

Let's pray together:

Dear Heavenly Father, in evil we see hope, in darkness we see light, Lord, thank you that your light is never extinguished, but it is the light of our own hearts that is extinguished because our faith is weak. Lord, enlighten the eyes of our hearts, that your light is still burning, and that your light will shine before the world as the sun at noon.

A little practice: We may be frustrated by wickedness, lawlessness, and abandonment of the truth, but do not be discouraged. God has been doing things until now. God will remember His everlasting covenant. Do not doubt, but believe. . God reminds us that His love and faithfulness are always with us, and that God will bless us greatly if we walk in the truth and follow Him

closely. If we do evil, God will deal with us as He did with Jehoram. So, we need to be vigilant and embrace God's love and faithfulness in faith, and embrace His Word!

In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, amen.

2 Chronicles, Chapter 21

21:1 Jehoshaphat slept with his fathers, and was buried in the grave of his fathers in the Acropolis. And Joram his son succeeded him as king.

21:2 And Joram had brothers, the sons of Joshaphat: Azariah, Jehiel, Zechariah, Azariah, Michael, and Shephatiah. These were the sons of Jehoshaphat king of Judah.

21:3 Their father gave them much silver and gold, and treasures, and fortified cities in the land of Judah. But he gave the kingdom to Joram, because he was the firstborn.

21:4 And Joram rose up in his father's place, and fought for himself, and slew all his brethren and some of the princes of Israel with the sword.

21:5 Joram was Chinese New Year's Eve when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem for eight years.

21:6 He walked in the way of the kings of Israel, as Ahab's house. For he took Ahab's daughters to wives, and did evil things that were evil in the sight of Yahweh and Varh.

21:7 But because of the covenant he had made with David, he would not destroy the house of David, and he would give a lamp to David and his children forever, as he had promised.

21:8 In the year of Joram, the Edomites rebelled against Judah, and set themselves kings out of his authority.

21:9 And Joram took the commander of the army and all the chariots he had, and rose up by night to attack the Edomites and the captains of the chariots who were besieging him.

21:10 So the Edomites rebelled against Judah and escaped from his authority to this day. At that time, the Liannaites also rebelled, because Joram had forsaken the God of Jehovathah's fathers.

21:11 And he built high places in the mountains of Judah, and caused the inhabitants of Jerusalem to commit adultery, and to deceive the children of Judah.

21:12 And Eliah the prophet Dasin said unto Joram, Thus saith the God of Jehohua thy father David, for thou hast not walked in the way of Jehoshaphat thy father and Asa king of Judah,

21:13 He walked in the way of the kings of Israel, and caused Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem to commit adultery, as the house of Ahab did, and slew all the brothers of thy father's house which were better than thee.

21:14 Therefore the great plague of Yahweh has brought upon thy people, and with thy wives and sons, and with thy children, and with all that thou has.

21:15 and thy bowels shall be sick, and they shall grow heavier and heavier, so that thy bowels shall fall.

21:16 Later, Jehohua stirred up the Philistines and the Arabs near Ethiopia to attack Joram.

21:17 And they came up against Judah, and invaded the land, and took all the goods that were in the king's house, and his wife and his sons, and his daughters, except for his youngest son, Jehoahaz, who was also known as Ahaziah. He didn't leave a single son behind.

21:18 After these things, Jehovah caused Joram's bowels to be incurable.

21:19 He suffered from this disease for a long time , and after two years , his intestines fell and he fell seriously ill and died . His people did not burn anything for him, as they had burned for his fathers.

21:20 Joram was Chinese New Year's Eve when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem for eight years. He died without any thoughts, and they buried him in the Acropolis, but not in the kings' tombs.

Chapter 21 of the Book of Chronicles deals with the ruler of Jehoshaphat, the king of Judah, and God's punishment for him. Here is a detailed summary:

Jehoram succeeded his father Jehoshaphat as king of Judah and ruled from 848 to 841 BCE. Jehoram ruled differently from his ancestors David and Jehoshaphat, who followed the idolatry of King Ahab of Israel and introduced it to the kingdom of Judah. He also established idolatrous altars in Jerusalem and the cities of Judah, and indulged in sexual immorality among the Jews.

Therefore, God was angry with Jehoram and his country and sent Edomites and Libyans against Judah. At this time, Jehoram was sick, and he prayed to God for help during his illness, but God rejected his prayer. After Jehoram's death, his son Ahaziah succeeded him as king of Judah.

A few important verses from 2 Chronicles 21:

1. 2 Chronicles 21:7: "But the LORD was not willing to destroy Judah because of his covenant with David, because he had promised David eternal light." "

This passage mentions God's covenant with David, the promise that David's royal family would occupy the throne of Judah forever. Although Jeho'aphat son Jehoram committed many sins during his reign, God was unwilling to destroy Judah because of his covenant with David.

2. 2 Chronicles 21:13: "Because you led the children of Judah to prostitution, and caused the children of Jerusalem to commit prostitution, like the house of Ahab, and slew the sons of the head of your father's house of the house of Peri, the wise men of the house of Peri." "

This is God's judgment on Jehoram through the prophet Elijah. Jehoram committed many sins, including leading the people of Judah and Jerusalem to commit adultery, imitating the wicked deeds of King Ahab of Israel, and killing the sons of the house of Billy. God therefore warned him of judgment.

3. 2 Chronicles 21:20: "Jehoram was two years old when he became king Chinese New Year's Eve, and he reigned eight years in Jerusalem, doing evil in the sight of the Lord. "

This is a brief history of Joram, which includes the time of his accession to the throne, the time of his reign, and the crimes he committed. Jehoram reigned eight years, but he was judged by God for doing things that were evil in the eyes of the Lord.

4. 2 Chronicles 21:27: "Jehoram slept with his fathers and was buried in the city of David, in the sepulchrement of his fathers." And Ahaziah his son succeeded him as king. "

This is the posthumous record of Joram. He was buried in the City of David, that is, in Jerusalem, with his fathers. His son Ahaziah succeeded him on the throne.

2 Chronicles chapter 21 goes on to record important events in Israel's history, particularly the passing of Israel's throne to Solomon's son Rehoboam after the death of King David's son, Rehoboam, and Rehoboam's reign and mistakes. This chapter emphasizes the importance of God's loyalty and obedience, as well as warnings against stubbornness and disobedience.

Although this chapter is primarily a record of historical events, it still contains some theological ideas and gains.

The following are the central theological ideas and theological findings that can be found in 2 Chronicles 21:

The Importance of Loyalty and Obedience: In chapter 21, Rehoboam, the king of Israel, did not obey God's law and commandments, but went down the wrong path. This reminds us that obedience to God and doing His will is essential in faith.

God's Warning and Faithful Punishment: Rehoboam was punished by God for his disobedience. God sent prophets to warn him, but he did not repent. God, as a righteous God, will faithfully punish stubborn sins.

Influence on Future Generations: Not only was Rehoboam himself punished by God, but his descendants were also affected by his sins. This reaffirms the responsibility of leaders whose actions will have an impact on future generations.

Repentance and God's mercy: In this chapter, although Rehoboam made mistakes, he repented when he heard God's warning. God also showed God's mercy and forgiveness by delaying his punishment because of his repentance.

Overall, chapter 21 of 2 Chronicles is primarily a record of historical events, and contains themes of the importance of loyalty and obedience, God's warning and faithful punishment, and repentance and God's mercy. Through these accounts, we can come to a deeper understanding of the fundamental elements of faith in obedience to God and the obedience to His laws, as well as God's faithful punishment for the sins of disobedience and unrepentance. However, God is also merciful and forgiving, and when we repent, He listens to our prayers and shows His mercy. In faith, we should humbly submit to God's will, repent of our sins, and make our lives manifest God's glory and reflect God's kingdom.