

Bible Study Topic: Serving the Lord will pay off after a while

Scripture: 2 Chronicles 15:1-7 NIV

The Big Idea:

Serving the Lord will pay off after a while

There is an old church song that says, and I quote, *Serving the Lord will pay off after a while. Serving God, it will pay off after while. Just keep working, every day. Whatever is right, God said He would pay. Serving the Lord. I know it will pay off Oh, yes after while. Just keep marching, on and on. Someday you will wear a starry crown. Serving the Lord I know it will pay off Oh yes after while.*

Sometimes, it can appear that serving God and doing what is right does not yield a reward. However, I want to share with you that serving the Lord will pay off after a while. In our text today, we witness some requisites that lead to seeing harvest reaped from serving God. We will briefly examine Asa and how God rewarded him for his faithful service.

We meet Asa in the 14th and 15th chapters of 2 Chronicles and 1st Kings chapter 15. Who was he? (**1 Kings 15.9-10**)

1. He was king of **Judah**.
2. He reigned for **forty-one years**.
3. His grandmother's name was **Maakah**, daughter of **Abishalom**.

To appreciate Asa's experience, first, we must go back to God's command given to the people of God before entering into the Land of Promise. (**Ex. 34.10-14; Duet. 7.1-15**)

Fast forwarding in Israel's historicity, it is recorded that Asa did what was good/right in the eyes of the Lord (**2 Chr. 14.2; 1 Kings 15.11**).

What did he do (2 Chr. 14.3-5)?

1. Removed foreign altars and high places (v3).
2. Smashed the sacred stones (v3).
3. Cut down the Asherah poles (v3).
4. Commanded Judah to seek the Lord (v4).
5. Commanded Judah to obey God's laws and commands (v4).
6. Removed the high places (v5).
7. Removed the incense altars (v5).

God rewards Asa for doing what was right in the eyes of the Lord (2 Chr. 14-5-15).

1. The Kingdom of Judah was at peace (v5).
2. The spirit of restoration was upon the land (v6).
3. God gave them rest from war (v6).
4. Build up towns (v7).
5. Prosperity was upon the land (v7).
6. God fought for them (v12; Isa. 54.17).
7. Experienced improbable victory (v8-9).
8. God uses fear for them (vv13-14).
9. Experienced unearned increase (vv14-15).

God shows up through Azariah, son of Oded (v1) and prophet, and he goes out to meet Asa (v2) and prophesies.

1. How to acquire the presence of God (2 Chr. 15.2; Ps 14.2; Prov. 8.17; Jer. 29.13).
2. How to be forsaken by God (2 Chr. 15.2).

If we serve God faithfully and obey Him, God will reward us (**Deut. 28.1-14**).

Take the time to think of how God has and is blessing you because of your service.