

“Clear Eyes, Full Hearts, Can’t Lose”

2 Chronicles 16:1-10

Grace Fellowship Church / Pastor Ryan Conlon / January 12, 2025

2 Chronicles 16:1-10 “In the thirty-sixth year of the reign of Asa, Baasha king of Israel went up against Judah and built Ramah, that he might permit no one to go out or come in to Asa king of Judah. ²Then Asa took silver and gold from the treasures of the house of the Lord and the king's house and sent them to Ben-hadad king of Syria, who lived in Damascus, saying, ³‘There is a covenant between me and you, as there was between my father and your father. Behold, I am sending to you silver and gold. Go, break your covenant with Baasha king of Israel, that he may withdraw from me.’ ⁴And Ben-hadad listened to King Asa and sent the commanders of his armies against the cities of Israel, and they conquered Ijon, Dan, Abel-maim, and all the store cities of Naphtali. ⁵And when Baasha heard of it, he stopped building Ramah and let his work cease. ⁶Then King Asa took all Judah, and they carried away the stones of Ramah and its timber, with which Baasha had been building, and with them he built Geba and Mizpah. ⁷At that time Hanani the seer came to Asa king of Judah and said to him, ‘Because you relied on the king of Syria, and did not rely on the Lord your God, the army of the king of Syria has escaped you. ⁸Were not the Ethiopians and the Libyans a huge army with very many chariots and horsemen? Yet because you relied on the Lord, He gave them into your hand. ⁹For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to give strong support to those whose heart is blameless toward Him. You have done foolishly in this, for from now on you will have wars.’ ¹⁰Then Asa was angry with the seer and put him in the stocks in prison, for he was in a rage with him because of this. And Asa inflicted cruelties upon some of the people at the same time.”

I. **The eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth to give strong support to those whose heart is blameless toward Him because He is OUR FATHER.**

2 Chronicles 14:11 “And Asa cried to the Lord his God, ‘O Lord, there is none like You to help, between the mighty and the weak. Help us, O Lord our God, for we rely on You, and in Your name we have come against this multitude. O Lord, You are our God; let not man prevail against You.’”

Paul Miller in his book, *A Praying Life*, says, “If we think we can do life on our own, we will not take prayer seriously.” Or, put another way, if we don’t take prayer seriously, we will do life on our own.

Matthew 6:9 “Pray then like this: ‘Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name.’”

II. **The eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth to give strong support to those whose heart is blameless toward Him because He is OUR DEFENDER.**

2 Chronicles 16:9 “For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to give strong support to those whose heart is blameless toward Him. You have done foolishly in this, for from now on you will have wars.”

“What an exquisite thought is suggested by the allusion to the eyes of the Lord running to and fro throughout the whole earth! At a glance He takes in our position; not a sorrow, trial, or temptation visits us without exciting His notice and loving sympathy. In all the whole wide earth there is not one spot so lonely, one heart so darkened, as to escape those eyes.”

~ F.B. Meyer

Blameless hearts aren't sinless hearts, they are hearts that are fully turned towards Him, loyal to Him, and all in.

God's eyes running are an act of force, ready and willing to defend His people when they look to Him.

God shows Himself STRONG, as our DEFENDER when we come to Him in WEAKNESS.

III. The eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth to give strong support to those whose heart is blameless toward Him because He is OUR DELIVERER.

The biggest lie Asa must have been telling himself was, “God can't save me” and “I can get myself out of this mess.”

Romans 1:22 “Claiming to be wise, they became fools...”

Ephesians 2:1-4 “And you were dead in the trespasses and sins ²in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience— ³among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. ⁴But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which He loved us...”