

2 Chronicles 19

King James Version (KJV)

19 And Jehoshaphat the king of Judah returned to his house in peace to Jerusalem. (Hopefully he learned a lesson. Be careful who you associate with. He was almost killed because he made friends with the evil king Ahab of Israel)

²And Jehu the son of Hanani the seer went out to meet him, and said to king Jehoshaphat, Shouldest thou help the ungodly, and love them that hate the LORD? therefore is wrath upon thee from before the LORD. (War is coming to Judah because Jehoshaphat helped the heathen king Ahab)

³Nevertheless there are good things found in thee, in that thou hast taken away the groves out of the land, and hast prepared thine heart to seek God. (groves – they were worship places to the Phoenician goddess Ashtoreth. She was also known as the Assyrian goddess Ishtar after whom, Easter was named. These idol worshippers had spring fertility rites in the groves to Ishtar. These rites were morning orgies, complete with rolling decorated eggs and passing out sweets and cakes)

(This pagan ritual eventually replaced Passover. The name was changed to Easter by the early Catholic Church. They did it to increase their membership in order to make more money on tithes. Christians still celebrate Easter today, instead of Passover, and God hates it)

⁴And Jehoshaphat dwelt at Jerusalem: and he went out again through the people from Beersheba to mount Ephraim, and brought them back unto the LORD God of their fathers. (From one end of the land to the other)

⁵And he set judges in the land throughout all the fenced cities of Judah, city by city, (He educated the people in God's Word so that they would know what God asks of us. Jehoshaphat is trying to atone for his sin of having allied with Ahab, whom God had judged to death for his crimes)

NOTE: (When you sin <which we all do>; repent and get right with God. HE will forgive and bless you)

⁶And said to the judges, Take heed what ye do: for ye judge not for man, but for the LORD, who is with you in the judgment. (Judge righteously and fairly by God's laws; not by man's traditions)

⁷Wherefore now let the fear of the LORD be upon you; take heed and do it: for there is no iniquity with the LORD our God, nor respect of persons, nor taking of gifts. (fear = alarm or dread; this is a serious warning against being crooked)

(God has no "favorites". HE is against corrupt judges taking bribes or gifts or showing favoritism or partiality in their judgments)

NOTE: (It's a disgrace that the government and many of the judges today are so corrupt. The good people suffer because of it)

⁸Moreover in Jerusalem did Jehoshaphat set of the Levites, and of the priests, and of the chief of the fathers of Israel, for the judgment of the LORD, and for controversies, when they returned to Jerusalem.

⁹And he charged them, saying, Thus shall ye do in the fear of the LORD, faithfully, and with a perfect heart. (perfect = mature)

¹⁰And what cause soever shall come to you of your brethren that dwell in your cities, between blood and blood, between law and commandment, statutes and judgments, ye shall even warn them that they trespass not against the LORD, and so wrath come upon you, and upon your brethren: this do, and ye shall not trespass. (Warn the people when they are erring, before they commit a serious crime. So that they don't suffer the consequences when they eventually do evil deeds)

¹¹And, behold, Amariah the chief priest is over you in all matters of the LORD; and Zebadiah the son of Ishmael, the ruler of the house of Judah, for all the king's matters: also the Levites shall be officers before you. Deal courageously, and the LORD shall be with the good. (This is good advice for us as well. God knows what we all do and how we choose to live)