

OurMDC.org (925) 354-1096 Discovery Bay California 94505

Program for Sunday, January 24, 2020. Service online.

Call to Worship: Every Praise

Let It Fall

## **Welcome and Announcements:**

Services Online. Regretfully, we cannot meet due to health regulations. Services will be online until further notice. Please subscribe and watch the Friday email announcements for any changes.

**Diane Weaver**, wife of former MDC pastor John Weaver, passed away from a heart attack two weeks ago. Her funeral service was live online last Friday. They recorded the service and will put it online in a few weeks.

**Bible Study this week,** Life in the Spirit, Wednesday, January 6, 2021 at 6:30 via teleconference. Call in number (Long Distance) (848) 777-1212, PIN 925 354 1096#. For questions, please contact the church.

Sonja Sellers is interested in starting a book club discussion of John Ortberg's "The Life You've Always Wanted." Books are available everywhere books are sold. Please email Sonja directly at sonjasellers1@me.com, with your email address with a phone number to use to contact you so Sonja can send you a zoom invite. If you need assistance with Zoom, she can walk you through the process.

MDC members passed the Bylaw change regarding in-person meetings during Covid restrictions. The Board will be contacting you soon regarding the 2021 annual meeting.

The 2020 Contribution Statements were mailed out last week. Please contact the office if you didn't receive yours.

Thank you for your continued financial support of MDC.

Please contact us for any needs, suggestions, or prayer requests:

Pastor Larry Quinnell - PastorLarry@OurMDC.org

General Info. - Info@OurMDC.org Prayer requests -

PrayerRequest@OurMDC.org

Adoration: What a Friend

How Great is Our God

**Message: Finishing Well** 

Response / Invitation: God Only Knows Stand in Your Love **Assurance / Sending:** 

Close of Service

#### **Message Notes:**

**Friday's Devotional:** Martin Luther King: "Life's most persistent and urgent question is, What are you doing for others?"

This can quickly lead to legalism and burnout. First, listen to the Holy Spirit and determine who God has as your neighbor. Love your neighbor as yourself.

# Finishing well? Full of hope or Full of fear?

## Kings of 10 tribes and King Asa

- King Asa, ruled Judah and Benjamin in the south for 41 years
- In the north 10 tribes:
  - King Jeroboam,
  - King Nadab, (son of King Jeroboam), Nadab soon assassinated by Baasha
  - King Baasha, reigned 24 years
  - King Elah, (son of King Baasha), reigned 2 years, Elah assassinated by Zimri
  - King Zimri, reigned 7 days, committed suicide.
  - King Omri; reigned 12 years.
  - King Ahab, Asa died a year into the reign of King Ahab

#### **2 Chronicles 16:1-6**

In the thirty-sixth year of Asa's reign Baasha king of Israel came up against Judah and fortified Ramah in order to prevent anyone from going out or coming in to Asa king of Judah. Then Asa brought out silver and gold from the treasuries of the house of the Lord and the king's house, and sent them to Ben-hadad king of Aram, who lived in Damascus, saying, "Let there be a treaty between you and me, as between my father and your father. Behold, I have sent you silver and gold; go, break your treaty with Baasha king of Israel so that he will withdraw from me." So Ben-hadad listened to King Asa and sent the commanders of his armies against the cities of Israel, and they conquered Ijon, Dan, Abelmaim and all the store cities of Naphtali.

When Baasha heard of it, he ceased fortifying Ramah and stopped his work. Then King Asa brought all Judah, and they carried away the stones of Ramah and its timber with which Baasha had been building, and with them he fortified Geba and Mizpah.

## How is Asa's heart different?

- Plunders Royal treasury.
- Plunders Temple treasury.
- Pays foreign king.

#### 2 Chronicles 16:7-10

At that time Hanani the seer came to Asa king of Judah and said to him, "Because you have relied on the king of Aram and have not relied on the Lord your God, therefore the army of the king of Aram has escaped out of your hand. "Were not the Ethiopians and the Lubim an immense army with very many chariots and horsemen? Yet because you relied on the Lord, He delivered them into your hand." "For the eyes of the Lord move to and fro throughout the earth that He may strongly support those whose heart is completely His. You have acted foolishly in this. Indeed, from now on you will surely have wars." Then Asa was angry with the seer and put him in prison, for he was enraged at him for this. And Asa oppressed some of the people at the same time.

## How is Asa's heart different?

- Doesn't listen to the prophet.
- Imprisons the prophet.
- Persecutes others.

#### 2 Chronicles 16:11-12

Now, the acts of Asa from first to last, behold, they are written in the Book of the Kings of Judah and Israel. In the thirty-ninth year of his reign Asa became diseased in his feet. His disease was severe, yet even in his disease he did not seek the Lord, but the physicians.

#### How is Asa's heart different?

- With diseased feet,
  - Seeks physicians.
  - Does not seek the Lord.

#### 2 Chronicles 16:13-14

So As a slept with his fathers, having died in the forty-first year of his reign. They buried him in his own tomb which he had cut out for himself in the city of David, and they laid him in the resting place which he had filled with spices of various kinds blended by the perfumers' art; and they made a very great fire for him.

### The Arc of Asa's life: part 1

- Assumes the throne at young age.
  - Stops a generational curse.
- Kingdom enjoys peace.
  - Asa seeks God, builds, fortifies, and deals with idols
- Kingdom is going to be attacked.
  - Asa prays, though he has an army.
  - Asa's army fights, Lord routs the enemy.

# The Arc of Asa's life: part 2

- Hears the word of the Lord from Azariah
  - Listen to God. Seek God. God is judge. Be strong.
- Asa responds:
  - Courageous, Removed idols (including Queen Mother's idol!), Restored Altar, Gathered believers
- People respond to Asa's leadership:
  - Assembled, Sacrificed, Covenant, Community accountability
- God responds: Gives them rest.

# The Arc of Asa's life: part 3

- Out of fear:
  - Rather than negotiate with distant relative's kingdom,
  - Plunders royal treasury, and Temple treasury.
  - Pays foreign king to attack that distant relative's kingdom.
- Word of the Lord
  - Imprisons prophet, oppresses others.
- Personally afflicted (with foot disease).
  - Seeks knowledge only of men, and not help from God.

Finishing..., well? Full of Hope? Or, Full of Fear?

# If you are home, you are not alone. God is with you!

# MDC wants to help. We are here for you.

Prayer Request: PrayerRequest@OurMDC.org

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