

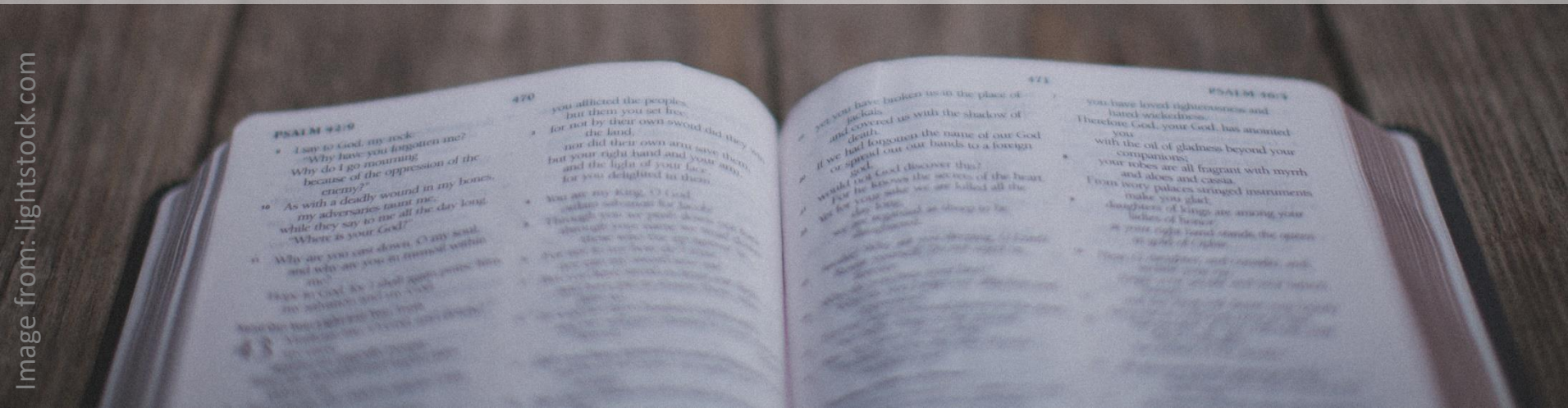
# Learning from the Kings of the Divided Kingdom: Jehoshaphat

# Where in the Biblical Timeline?

1400 BC – Entering “Promised Land”

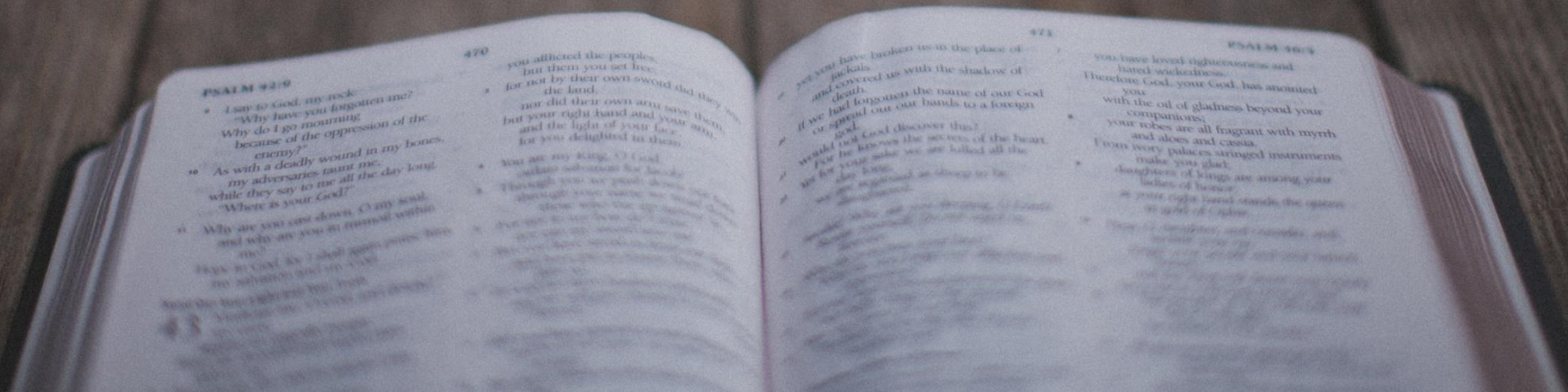
1050 BC – Kingship begins:  
Saul, David, Solomon

930 BC – Kingdom Divides:  
Israel (north) and Judah (south)





# First Four Kings of Judah: Rehoboam, Abijah, Asa, Jehoshaphat





# Jehoshaphat in 2 Chronicles 17-20

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## 2 CHRONICLES

### Solomon Worships at Gibeon

<sup>1</sup> <sup>a</sup>Solomon the son of David established himself in his kingdom, <sup>b</sup>and the LORD his God was with him and made him exceedingly great.  
<sup>2</sup> Solomon spoke to all Israel, to the <sup>c</sup>commanders of thousands and of hundreds, to the judges, and to all the leaders in all Israel, the heads of fathers' houses. <sup>3</sup> And Solomon, and all the assembly with him, went to <sup>d</sup>the high place that was at Gibeon, <sup>e</sup>for 'the tent of meeting of God, which Moses the servant of the LORD had made in the wilderness, was there. <sup>4g</sup> (But David had brought up the ark of God from Kiriath-jearim to the place that David had prepared for it, for he had pitched a tent for it in Jerusalem.) <sup>5</sup> Moreover, <sup>h</sup>the bronze altar that <sup>i</sup>Bezalel the son of Uri, son of Hur, had made, was there before the tabernacle of the LORD. And Solomon and the assembly <sup>j</sup>sought it' out. <sup>6</sup> And Solomon went up there to the bronze altar before the LORD, which was at the tent of meeting, <sup>k</sup>and offered a thousand burnt offerings on it.

### Solomon Prays for Wisdom

<sup>7</sup> In that night God appeared to Solomon, and said to him, "Ask what I shall give you."  
<sup>8</sup> And Solomon said to God, "You have shown great and steadfast love to David my father, and have made me king in his place. <sup>9</sup> O LORD God, let your word to David my father be fulfilled, and make me king in his place as numerous <sup>o</sup>as the dust of the earth."

### Chapter 2

- <sup>1</sup><sup>a</sup> 1 Kgs. 5:5
- <sup>2</sup> ver. 18; 1 Kgs. 5:15, 16;  
[ch. 8:7, 8; 1 Kgs. 9:20;  
21] <sup>a</sup>[1 Kgs. 5:16]
- <sup>3</sup> For ver. 3-16, see 1 Kgs.  
5:2-11 <sup>a</sup>1 Chr. 14:1
- <sup>4</sup> See Ex. 30:7 <sup>a</sup>See Lev.  
24:5-8 <sup>a</sup>See Num. 28:3-8  
<sup>c</sup>ch. 8:13; Num. 28:9, 11,  
19, 26
- <sup>5</sup> Ps. 135:5; [Ex. 15:11;  
1 Chr. 16:25; Ps. 86:8]
- <sup>6</sup> ch. 6:18; 1 Kgs. 8:27;  
Isa. 66:1; Acts 7:49
- <sup>7</sup> ver. 13, 14 <sup>a</sup>1 Chr. 22:15
- <sup>8</sup> ch. 9:10, 11
- <sup>10</sup> [1 Kgs. 5:11]
- <sup>11</sup> ch. 9:8; 1 Kgs. 10:9
- <sup>12</sup> See Gen. 1:1 <sup>a</sup>[ver. 1]
- <sup>14</sup> <sup>a</sup>1 Kgs. 7:14 <sup>a</sup>[ver. 7]
- <sup>15</sup> ver. 10
- <sup>16</sup> [1 Kgs. 5:9] <sup>a</sup>See Josh.  
19:46

### Chapter 1

- <sup>1</sup><sup>a</sup> 1 Kgs. 2:46 <sup>a</sup>1 Chr.  
29:25
- <sup>2</sup><sup>a</sup> 1 Chr. 27:1
- <sup>3</sup> See 1 Kgs. 3:4 <sup>a</sup>1 Chr.  
16:39; 21:29 <sup>a</sup>Ex. 29:10  
Lev. 10:7; Num. 14:10
- <sup>4</sup> See 2 Sam. 6:2-17;  
1 Chr. 15:25-16:1
- <sup>5</sup> Ex. 27:1, 2, 38:1, 2; 31:2  
[1 Chr. 13:3]
- <sup>6</sup> 1 Kgs. 3:4
- <sup>7</sup> For ver. 7-12, see 1 Kgs.  
3:5-14
- <sup>8</sup> <sup>a</sup>1 Chr. 28:5
- <sup>9</sup> ch. 6:17; 1 Kgs. 8:15  
<sup>a</sup>Gen. 13:16
- <sup>10</sup> <sup>a</sup>Num. 27:17; Deut.  
31:21
- <sup>11</sup> Eccles. 5:19-6:2
- <sup>12</sup> [See ver. 11 above]  
<sup>a</sup>ch. 9:22; [1 Chr. 28:5]
- <sup>13</sup> See 1 Kgs. 3:4 <sup>a</sup>ver. 3
- <sup>14</sup> For ver. 14-17, see ch.  
9:25-28; 1 Kgs. 10:26-28  
<sup>a</sup>[1 Kgs. 4:26] <sup>a</sup>1 Kgs.  
9:19]



# 1) Jehoshaphat leads the people to follow God.

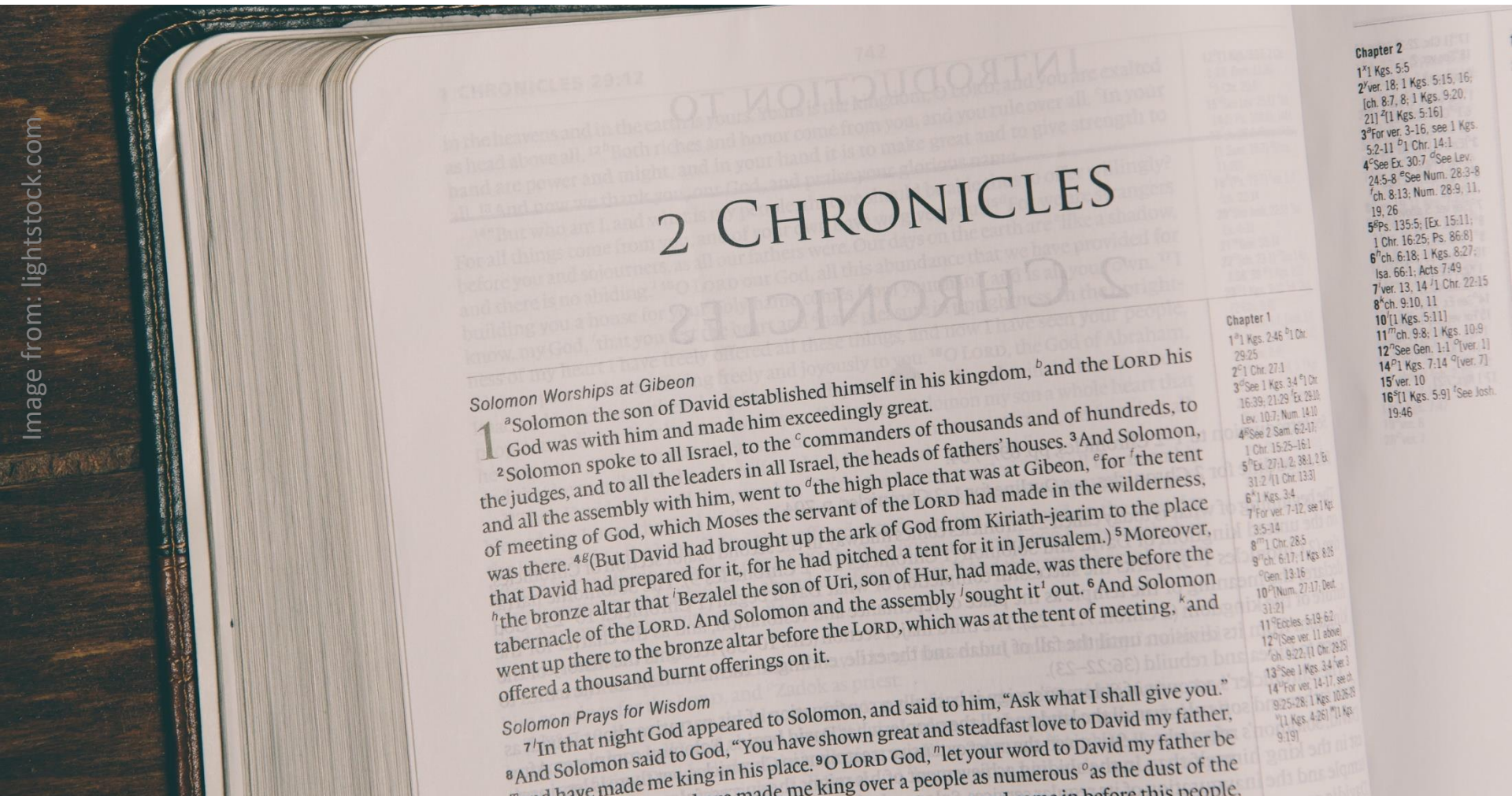


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# 2 Chronicles 17:3-6

<sup>3</sup> The LORD was with Jehoshaphat because he followed the example of his father David's earlier days and did not seek the Baals,

<sup>4</sup> but sought the God of his father, followed His commandments, and did not act as Israel did.

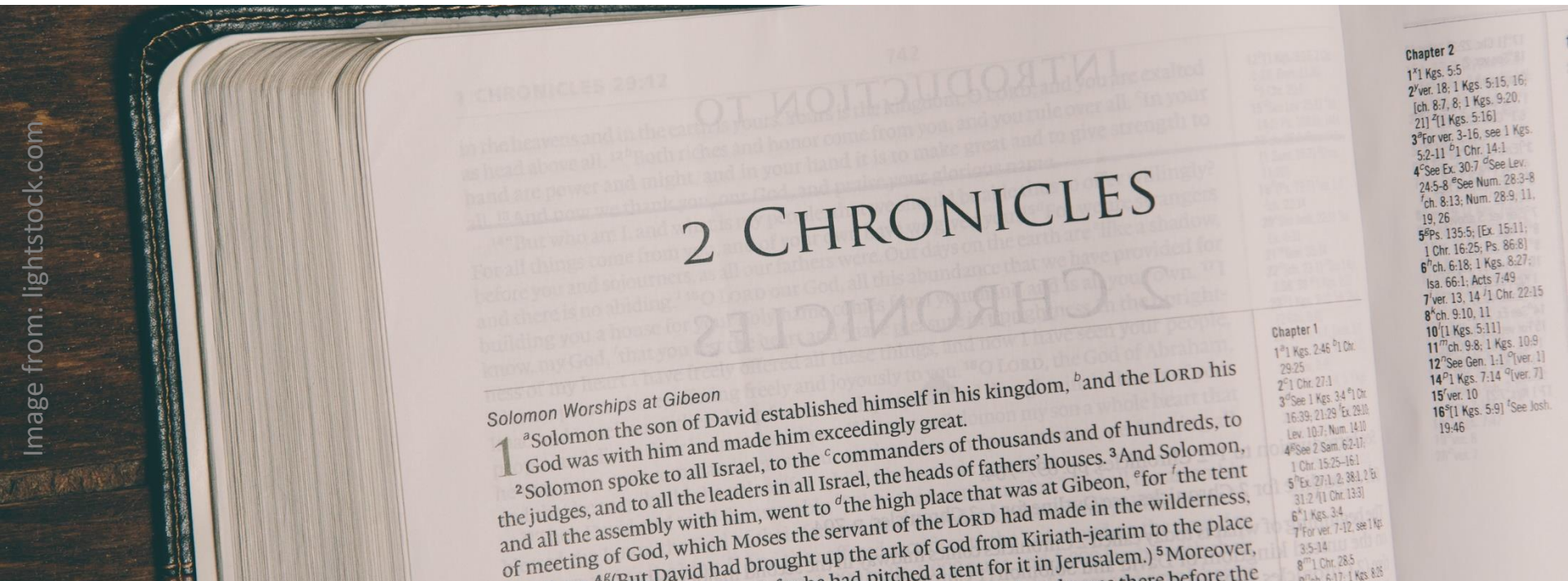
*\*All Scriptures from 1995 New American Standard Bible*

# 2 Chronicles 17:3-6

<sup>5</sup> So the LORD established the kingdom in his control, and all Judah brought tribute to Jehoshaphat, and he had great riches and honor.

<sup>6</sup> He took great pride in the ways of the LORD and again removed the high places and the Asherim from Judah.

# 1) Jehoshaphat leads the people to follow God.



-He appoints teachers and judges to lead the people toward God.



# 2 Chronicles 17:7-9

<sup>7</sup> Then in the third year of his reign he sent his officials, Ben-hail, Obadiah, Zechariah, Nethanel and Micaiah, to teach in the cities of Judah;

## 2 Chronicles 17:7-9

<sup>9</sup> They taught in Judah, *having* the book of the law of the LORD with them; and they went throughout all the cities of Judah and taught among the people.



# 2 Chronicles 19:5-7

<sup>5</sup> He appointed judges in the land in all the fortified cities of Judah, city by city.

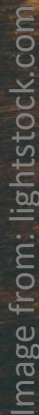
<sup>6</sup> He said to the judges, “Consider what you are doing, for you do not judge for man but for the LORD who is with you when you render judgment.

# 2 Chronicles 19:5-7

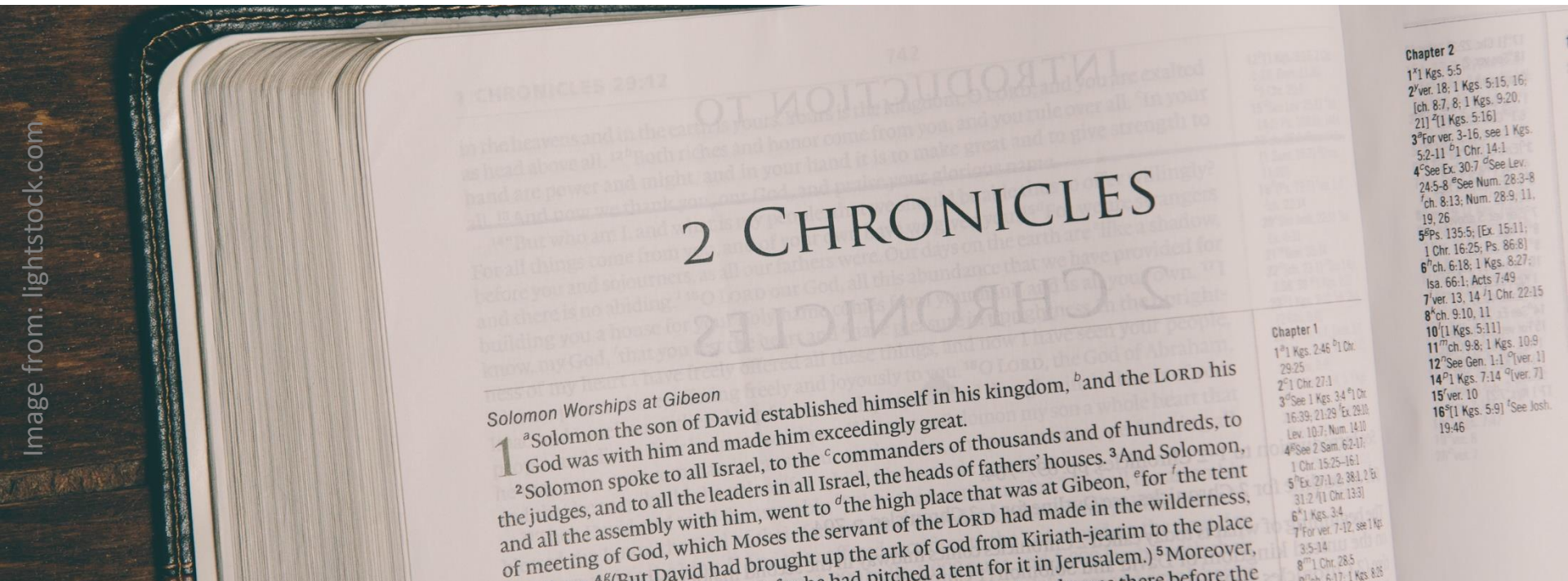
<sup>7</sup> Now then let the fear of the LORD be upon you; be very careful what you do, for the LORD our God will have no part in unrighteousness or partiality or the taking of a bribe.”



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## 2) Jehoshaphat gets too close to Ahab.



- They are allied by marriage.



# 2 Chronicles 18:1

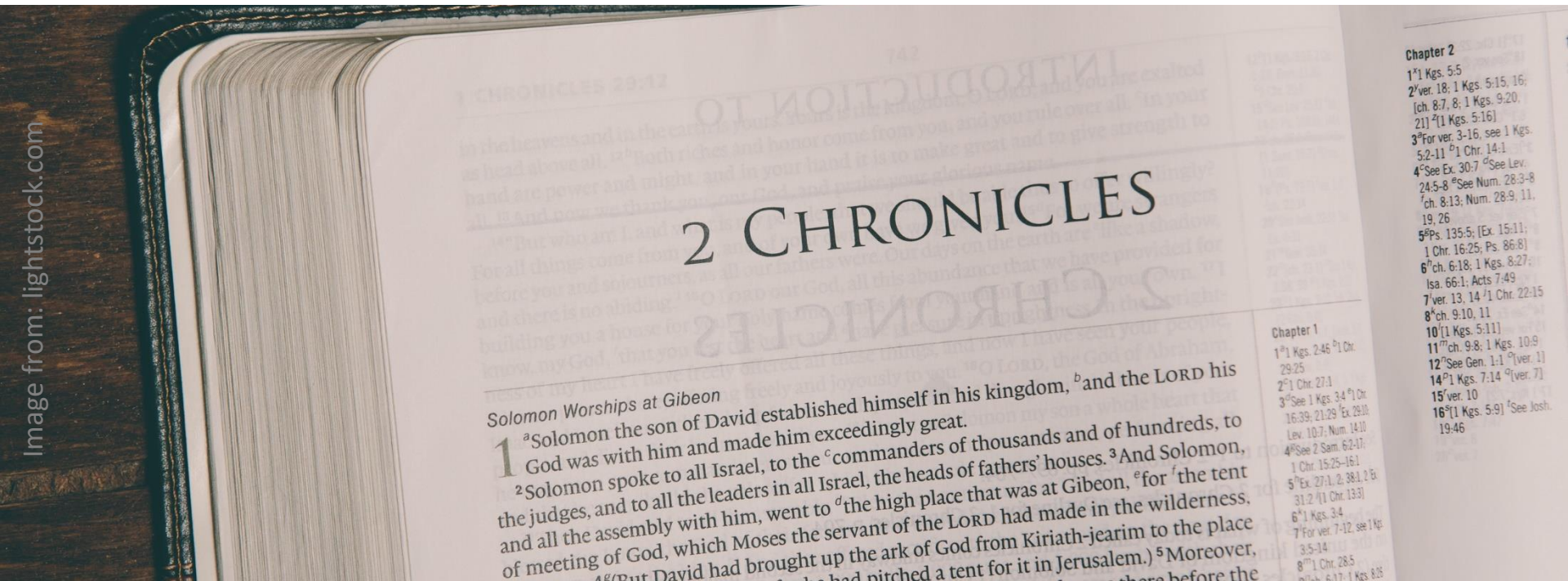
<sup>1</sup> Now Jehoshaphat had great riches and honor; and he allied himself by marriage with Ahab.

# 2 Chronicles 21:5-6

<sup>5</sup> Jehoram *was* thirty-two years old when he became king, and he reigned eight years in Jerusalem.

<sup>6</sup> He walked in the way of the kings of Israel, just as the house of Ahab did (for Ahab's daughter was his wife), and he did evil in the sight of the LORD.

## 2) Jehoshaphat gets too close to Ahab.



- He goes to battle with Ahab.



# 2 Chronicles 18:2-3

<sup>2</sup> Some years later he went down to *visit* Ahab at Samaria. And Ahab slaughtered many sheep and oxen for him and the people who were with him, and induced him to go up against Ramoth-gilead.

# 2 Chronicles 18:2-3

<sup>3</sup> Ahab king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat king of Judah, “Will you go with me *against* Ramoth-gilead?” And he said to him, “I am as you are, and my people as your people, and *we will be* with you in the battle.”

# 2 Chronicles 18:28-34

<sup>28</sup> So the king of Israel and Jehoshaphat king of Judah went up against Ramoth-gilead.

<sup>29</sup> The king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, “I will disguise myself and go into battle, but you put on your robes.” So the king of Israel disguised himself, and they went into battle.



# 2 Chronicles 18:28-34

<sup>30</sup> Now the king of Aram had commanded the captains of his chariots, saying, “Do not fight with small or great, but with the king of Israel alone.”

# 2 Chronicles 18:28-34

<sup>31</sup> So when the captains of the chariots saw Jehoshaphat, they said, “It is the king of Israel,” and they turned aside to fight against him. But Jehoshaphat cried out, and the LORD helped him, and God diverted them from him.

# 2 Chronicles 18:28-34

<sup>32</sup> When the captains of the chariots saw that it was not the king of Israel, they turned back from pursuing him.



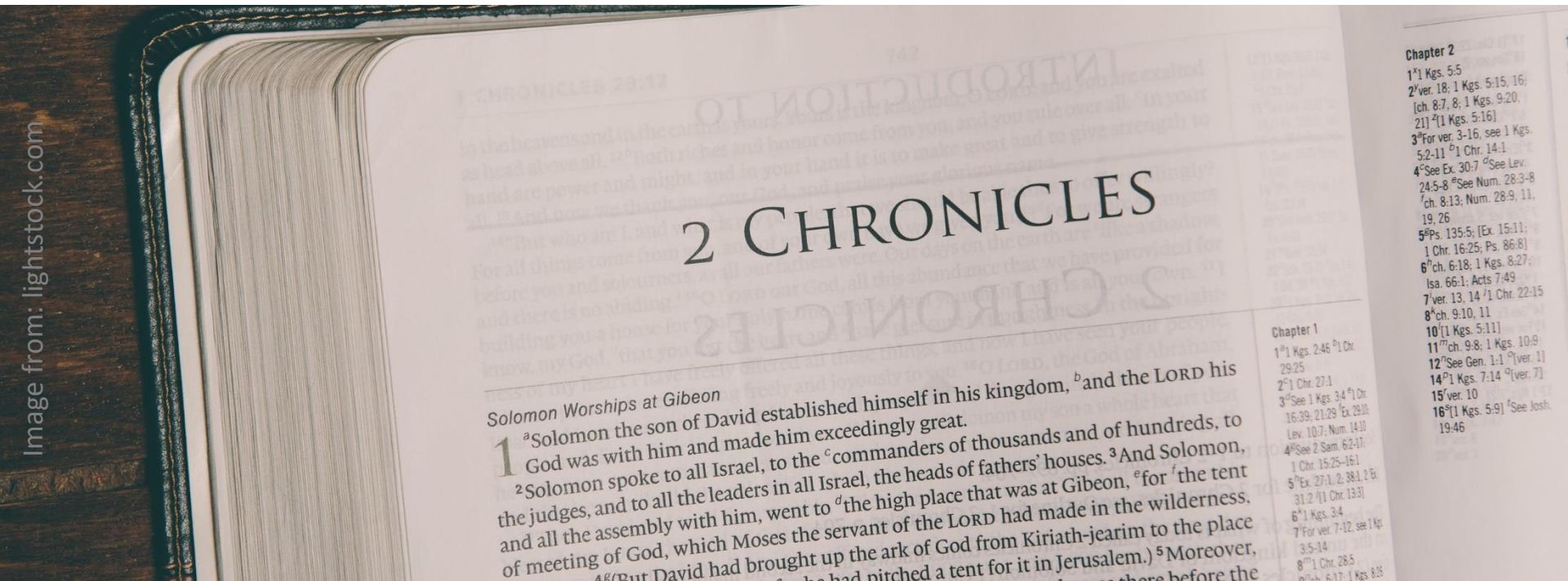
# 2 Chronicles 18:28-34

<sup>33</sup> A certain man drew his bow at random and struck the king of Israel in a joint of the armor. So he said to the driver of the chariot, "Turn around and take me out of the fight, for I am severely wounded."

# 2 Chronicles 18:28-34

<sup>34</sup> The battle raged that day, and the king of Israel propped himself up in his chariot in front of the Arameans until the evening; and at sunset he died.

## 2) Jehoshaphat gets too close to Ahab.



- God rebukes him for this.



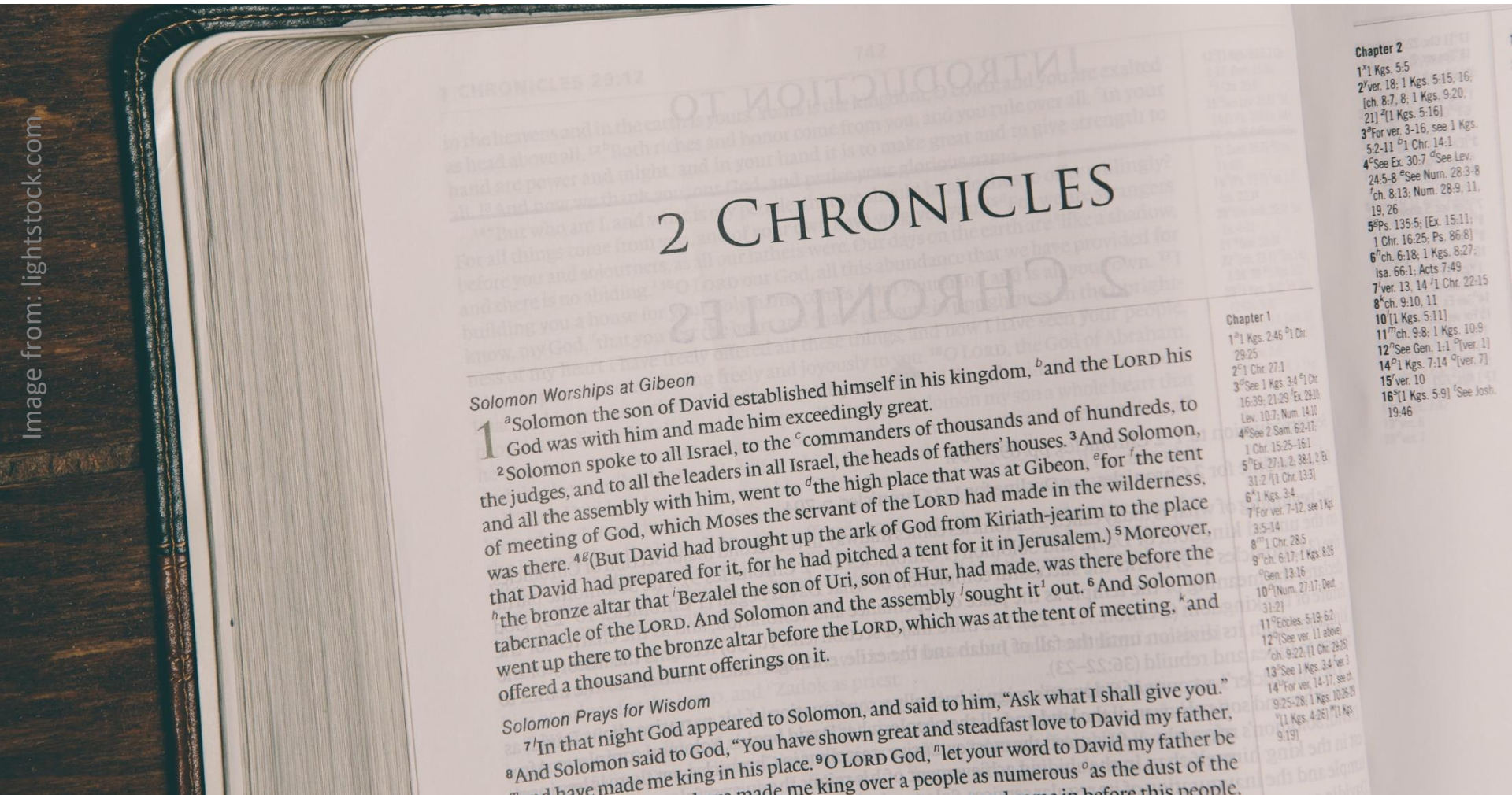
# 2 Chronicles 19:2-3

<sup>2</sup> Jehu the son of Hanani the seer went out to meet him and said to King Jehoshaphat, “Should you help the wicked and love those who hate the LORD and so *bring* wrath on yourself from the LORD?”

# 2 Chronicles 19:2-3

<sup>3</sup> But there is *some* good in you, for you have removed the Asheroth from the land and you have set your heart to seek God.”

# 3) Jehoshaphat trusts God, and God gives them a great victory.



# 2 Chronicles 20:1-2

<sup>1</sup> Now it came about after this that the sons of Moab and the sons of Ammon, together with some of the Meunites, came to make war against Jehoshaphat.



# 2 Chronicles 20:3-4

<sup>3</sup> Jehoshaphat was afraid and turned his attention to seek the LORD, and proclaimed a fast throughout all Judah.

<sup>4</sup> So Judah gathered together to seek help from the LORD; they even came from all the cities of Judah to seek the LORD.

# 2 Chronicles 20:5-6

<sup>5</sup> Then Jehoshaphat stood in the assembly of Judah and Jerusalem, in the house of the LORD before the new court,

# 2 Chronicles 20:5-6

<sup>6</sup> and he said, “O LORD, the God of our fathers, are You not God in the heavens? And are You not ruler over all the kingdoms of the nations? Power and might are in Your hand so that no one can stand against You.

# 2 Chronicles 20:12

<sup>12</sup> O our God, will You not judge them?  
For we are powerless before this great  
multitude who are coming against us;  
nor do we know what to do, but our  
eyes are on You.”

# 2 Chronicles 20:15,17

<sup>15</sup> and he [Jahaziel] said, “Listen, all Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem and King Jehoshaphat: thus says the LORD to you, ‘Do not fear or be dismayed because of this great multitude, for the battle is not yours but God’s.



# 2 Chronicles 20:15,17

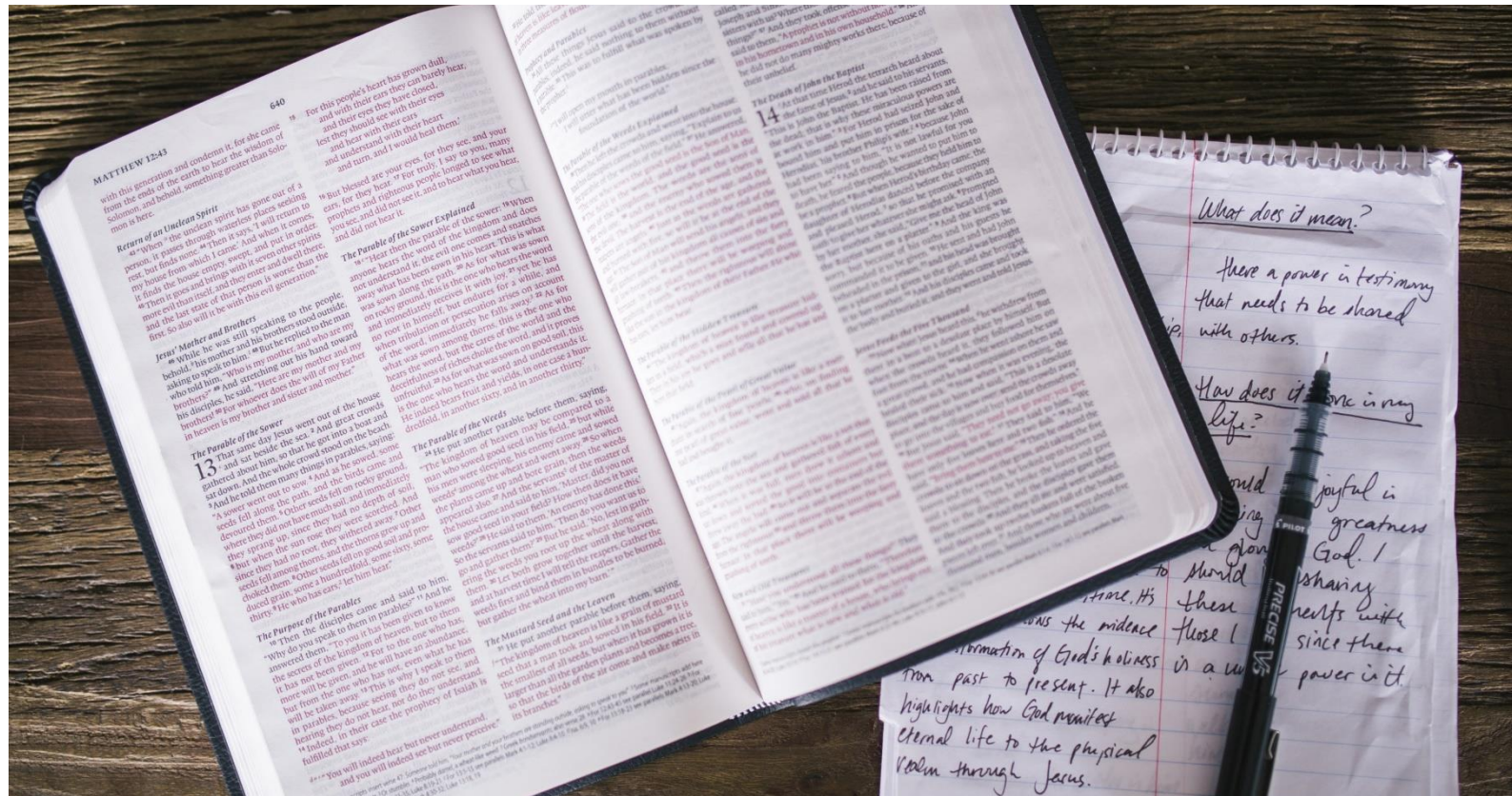
<sup>17</sup> You *need* not fight in this *battle*; station yourselves, stand and see the salvation of the LORD on your behalf, O Judah and Jerusalem.' Do not fear or be dismayed; tomorrow go out to face them, for the LORD is with you."

# 2 Chronicles 20:31-32

<sup>31</sup> Now Jehoshaphat reigned over Judah. He *was* thirty-five years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem twenty-five years. ...

<sup>32</sup> He walked in the way of his father Asa and did not depart from it, doing right in the sight of the LORD.

# Some Things We Notice



## 1) The importance of teaching.

# Romans 10:14-17

<sup>14</sup> How then will they call on Him in whom they have not believed? How will they believe in Him whom they have not heard? And how will they hear without a preacher?

<sup>15</sup> How will they preach unless they are sent? Just as it is written, “How BEAUTIFUL ARE THE FEET OF THOSE WHO BRING GOOD NEWS OF GOOD THINGS!”

# Romans 10:14-17

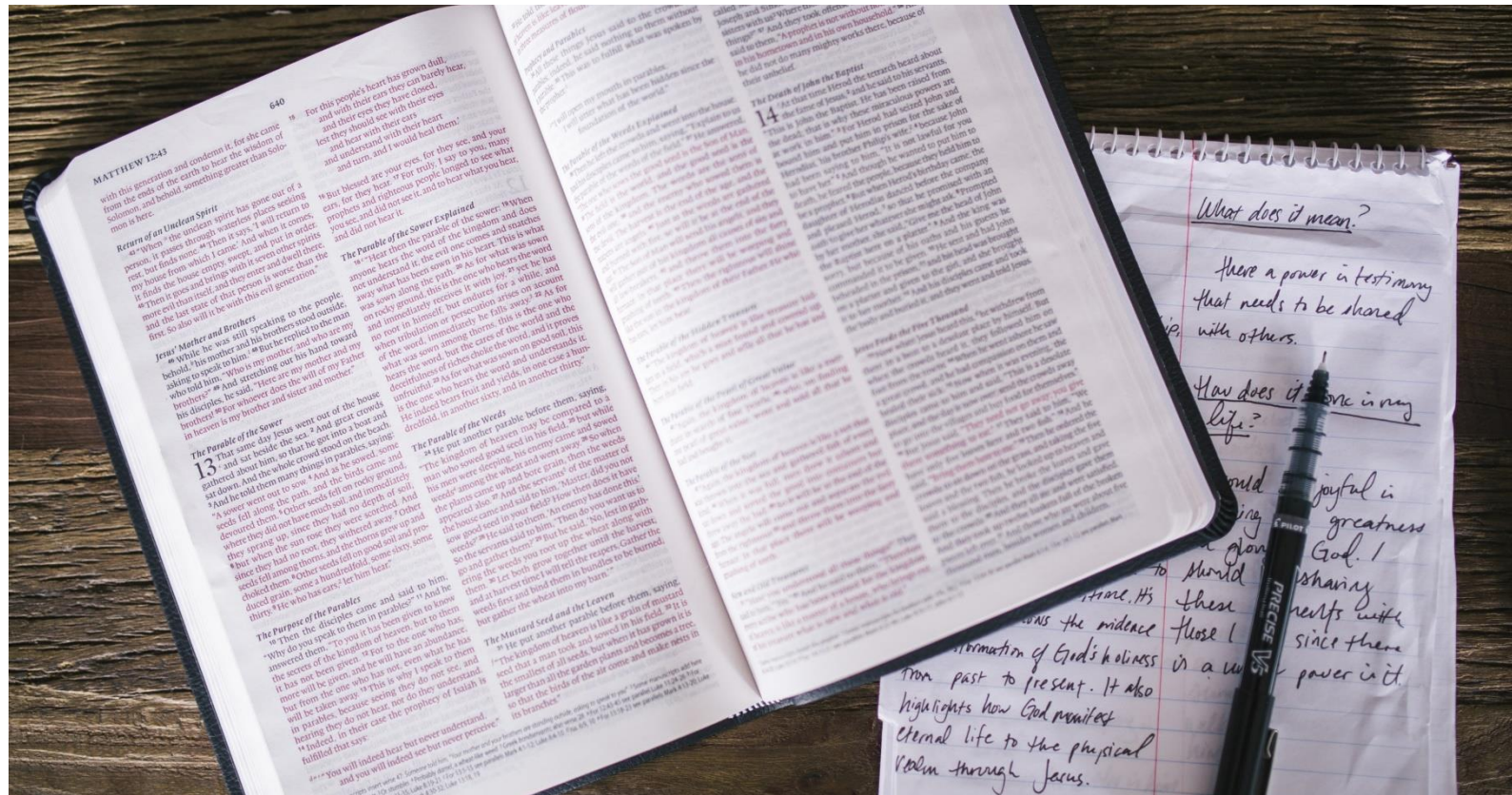
<sup>17</sup> So faith *comes* from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ.



# Romans 12:2

<sup>2</sup> And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.

# Some Things We Notice



2) We must not let relationships pull us away from God.

# 2 Corinthians 6:14

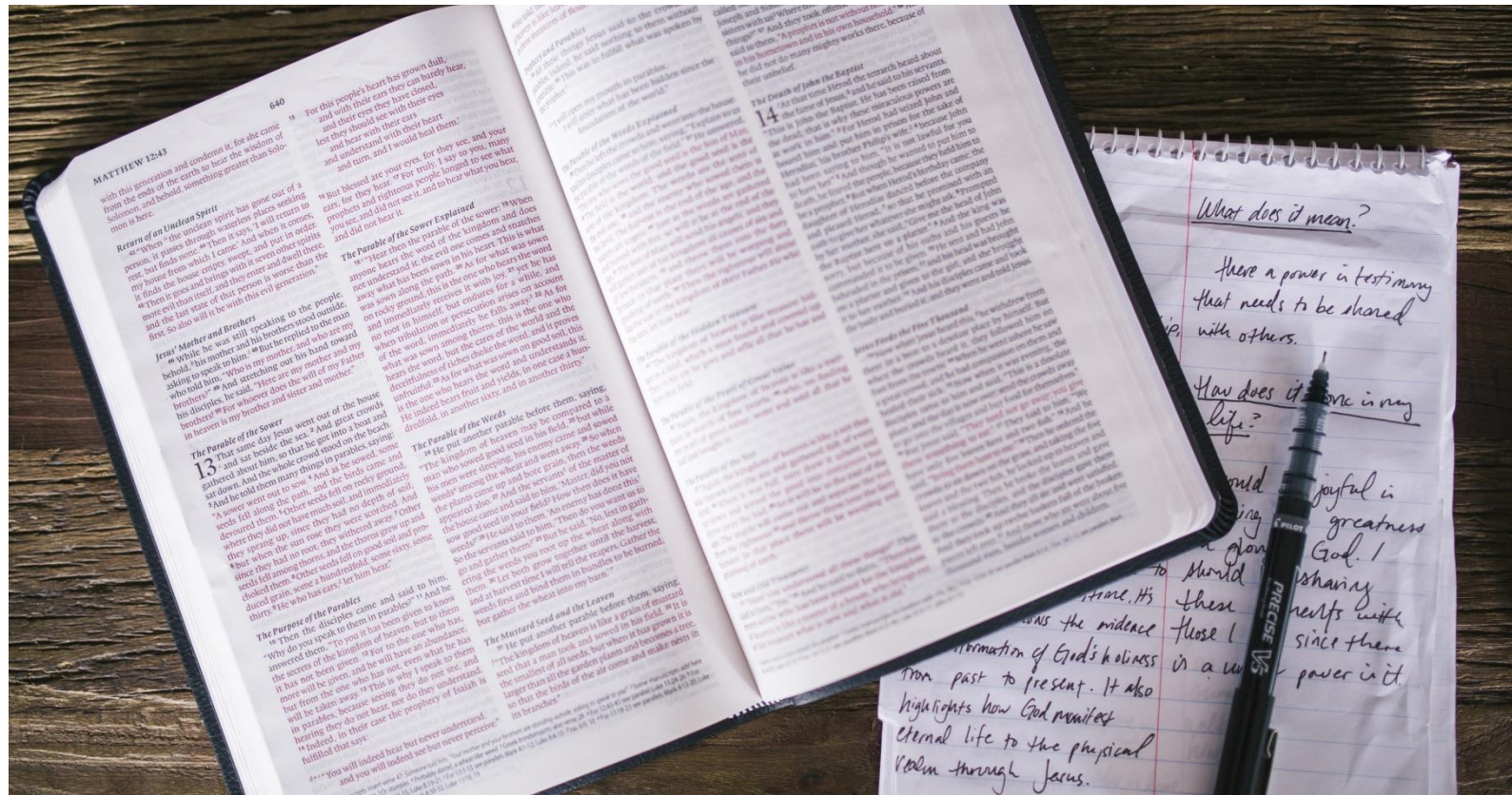
<sup>14</sup> Do not be bound together with unbelievers; for what partnership have righteousness and lawlessness, or what fellowship has light with darkness?

# 1 Corinthians 15:33

<sup>33</sup> Do not be deceived: “Bad company corrupts good morals.”



# Some Things We Notice




3) Much of our life will be defined by how we face our battles.



## 2 Chronicles 20:12

<sup>12</sup> O our God, will You not judge them?  
For we are powerless before this great  
multitude who are coming against us;  
nor do we know what to do, but our  
eyes are on You.”



# Learning from the Kings of the Divided Kingdom: Jehoshaphat

# Hebrews 12:1-2

<sup>1</sup> Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also lay aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,

# Hebrews 12:1-2

<sup>2</sup> fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.