

**Sunday, January 8<sup>th</sup>**

**Title:** “How to Begin Well and Finish Poorly”

**Text:** 2 Chronicles 14:1-16:14

As a new year gets underway, how will we approach the opportunities and challenges that await us?

This example of a well-poised Judahite king is instructive for us:

**The King Asa of Incredible Success**

- He sought to do the Lord’s will through His Word (14:1–8)
- He depended entirely on the Lord when a challenge arose (14:9–15)
- He listened and responded to the admonition of the Lord (15:1–8a)
- He took bold and decisive action in faithfulness to Yahweh (15:8b–19)

**The King Asa of Insufferable Decline**

- He did not seek the Lord’s will when a challenge arose (16:1–2)
- He trusted in the strength of man instead of (and opposed to) the Lord (16:3–6)
- He refused to accept the Lord’s admonition and rebuke (16:7–10)
- He persisted in faithless disobedience (16:11–14)

**By God’s grace, let us begin well, and finish *faithfully!***