

Markers of Authentic Watches



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"Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. On that day many will say to me, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?' And then will I declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness."

— MATTHEW 7:21-23



Markers of Authentic Faith

- Active obedience
- Bold repentance
- Constant dependence



60 years of Israel/Judah

Judah

- Abijam
- Asa

Israel

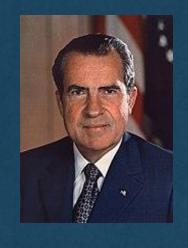
- Nadab
- Baasha
- Elah

- Zimri
- Omri
- Ahab



60 years of America

























Abijam / Abijah

"And he <u>walked in</u> all the sins that his father did before him, and his heart was not wholly true to the LORD his God, as the heart of David his father."



Asa

"And Asa <u>did</u> what was right in the eyes of the LORD, as David his father had done."



Nadab

"He <u>did</u> what was evil in the sight of the LORD and <u>walked in</u> the way of his father, and in his sin which he made Israel to sin."



Baasha

"He <u>did</u> what was evil in the sight of the LORD and <u>walked in</u> the way of Jeroboam and his sin which he made Israel to sin."



Elah

"for all the sins of Baasha and the sins of Elah his son, which they sinned and which they made Israel to sin, provoking the LORD God of Israel to anger with their idols."



Zimri

"because of his sins that he committed, <u>doing evil</u> in the sight of the LORD, <u>walking in</u> the way of Jeroboam, and for his sin which he committed, making Israel to sin."



Omri

"Omri <u>did</u> what was evil in the sight of the LORD, and <u>did more evil</u> than all who were before him. For he <u>walked in</u> all the way of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, and in the sins that he made Israel to sin, provoking the LORD, the God of Israel, to anger by their idols."

— 1 KINGS 16:25-26



Ahab

"And Ahab the son of Omri did what was evil in the sight of the LORD, more than all who were before him. And as if it had been a light thing for him to walk in the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, he took for his wife Jezebel the daughter of Ethbaal king of the Sidonians, and went and served Baal and worshiped him."



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"And Samuel said, "Has the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to listen than the fat of rams."

— 1 SAMUEL 15:22



Our obedience invites God's *blessing*



"Oh, that my people would listen to me, that Israel would walk in my ways! I would soon subdue their enemies and turn my hand against their foes...I would feed you with the finest of wheat, and with honey from the rock I would satisfy you."

— PSALM 81:13-14,16



"Oh that they had such a heart as this always, to fear me and to keep all my commandments, that it might go well with them and with their descendants forever!"

— DEUTERONOMY 5:29



Evaluate

- Do you see God's commands more as burdens or blessings?
- How seriously do you take God's commands?
- Is there anything God has said to "do" that you are saying "no" to, or anything God has said "don't do" that you are saying "yes" to?



Cultivate: Listening

"Teach me your way, O LORD, that I might walk in your truth; unite my heart to fear your name."

— PSALM 86:11



Cultivate: Listening

"For Ezra had set his heart to study the Law of the LORD, and to do it and to teach his statutes and rules in Israel."

— EZRA 7:10



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"He put away the male cult prostitutes out of the land and removed all the idols that his fathers had made. He also removed Maacah his mother from being queen mother because she had made an abominable image for Ashera. And Asa cut down her image and burned it at the brook Kidron."

— 1 KINGS 15:12-13



"For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live."

— ROMANS 8:13



"Be killing sin or it will be killing you"

— JOHN OWEN



Our repentance invites God's *grace*



"Repent therefore, and turn back, that your sins may be blotted out, that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord"

— ACTS 3:19-20



Evaluate

 What are you currently taming or flirting with that you need to kill?

 Who knows your current sin struggles and is helping you turn from them?

 Who are you helping turn from their sin toward God?



Cultivate: Community

"Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working."

— JAMES 5:16



Cultivate: Community

"Rescue those who are being taken away to death; hold back those who are stumbling to the slaughter. If you say, "Behold, we did not know this," does not he who weighs the heart perceive it? Does not he who keeps watch over your soul know it, and will he not repay may according to his work?

— PROVERBS 24:11-12



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"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."

— 2 CHRONICLES 14:11



"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. Then Asa took silver and gold from the treasures of the house of the LORD and the king's house and sent them to Benhadad king of Syria, who lived in Damascus, saying,



"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." And 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.



And when Baasha heard of it, he stopped building Ramah and let his work cease. Then 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.



At 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. Were 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.



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." Then 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.



"The acts of Asa, from first to last, are written in the Book of the Kings of Judah and Israel. In the thirty-ninth year of his reign Asa was diseased in his feet, and his disease became severe. Yet even in his disease he did not seek the LORD, but sought help from physicians."

— 2 CHRONICLES 16:1-12



Our dependence invites God's *power*



"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."

— 2 CHRONICLES 16:9



"Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

— ISAIAH 41:10



Evaluate

 What is your go-to source of security apart from God right now?

 When was the last time you asked God for help in a meaningful way?

What do you think God is capable of?



Cultivate: Prayer

"I pray because I can't help myself. I pray because I'm helpless. I pray because the need flows out of me all the time, waking and sleeping. It doesn't change God. It changes me."

— C.S. LEWIS



Cultivate: Prayer

"I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing."

— JOHN 15:5



Jesus: the true and better

- Active obedience
- Bold repentance
- Constant dependence

