

a good bit of our time on these matters of exact meaning of terms. Then we noticed the statement ~~of~~ ~~about~~ that the Lord had smitten Jeroboam and he died and ~~ex~~ we examined the question of the chronological relationship. Now we have a little more to say this morning about Asa.

The latter part of Asa's reign is not described in Kings (one event of it is but there ~~is~~ more given about it in Chronicles). Both Kings and Chronicles describe the attack against Asa by Basha. How Basha seized Ramah and fortified it, and then Asa was faced with this problem. The enemy had already made a serious move in his direction, had already seized Ramah, made a strong forward step, and it was quite evident that the next step would be to conquer and to seize him. Consequently in that situation Asa resolved to a strategy which has been common all through history. He had an enemy facing him, Israel. Israel was moving steadily in his direction. He was just exactly in the position which the United States was in about a little less than ten years ago. Germany was moving in our direction and had taken France and Belgium and was moving steadily this way. Consequently the United States and Great Britain looked beyond Germany to the great power on the other side, sent them a lot of lend lease and other gifts to Russia and secured the help of Russia against Germany, knowing that once Germany was destroyed, Russia would become a ^{great} democracy and peace would reign on the earth thereafter. Well, Asa was in substantially the same situation. Asa was faced by Basha, the king of Israel, and knowing as countries always know, when there is an evil power facing you that the power beyond it is of course a good power, he sent to the king of Syria, the land the other side of ~~Sy~~ Israel. We read here that he took the silver and gold that were left ~~in~~ of the treasures of the house of the Lord and the treasures of the king's house and he sent them up to Syria beyond Israel and he said to him, "Come and break thy league with Basha, king of Israel, that he may depart from me." So he invited the power, the larger power than Israel, beyond Israel to attack Israel in the back in order to relieve him from the attack of Israel. It is an