

Yet because thou didst rely on the Lord, He did deliver them into thy hand. Herein thou hast done foolishly. Therefore from henceforth thou shalt have war. There we have given in Chronicles, but not given in Kings, a rebuke, a strong rebuke, of this good king because of the tragic mistake which he made, ^{or} mistake that did not serious consequences immediately, but which was similar to others that had very serious consequences, as we have seen in our own day and ~~xxx~~ are seeing right now. So here the Lord very strongly rebukes Asa through this man Hananiah, the seer, for not trusting in the Lord and using this human expedient of ~~a~~ an alliance with this wicked power whose attitude and ideals were utterly contrary to his own. He is then given this strong rebuke for this. It ~~xxx~~ is contained in that wonderful verse in the middle of the statements of Hananiah, "The eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show himself strong in behalf of those whose heart is perfect toward him." We read of this terrible thing which Asa did. That he seized the seer and put him in a prison and oppressed others of the people at the same time. So here we have a persecution, not a persecution of death or torture, but a persecution with imprisonment because the king didn't like what they had said. It is comparatively seldom in the Bible that we find the kings treating prophets in this way. There are a few instances, but they are comparatively few. The prophets enjoyed a freedom in the lands of Israel and Judah, which is far beyond anything to be found in most any other ancient people or in most modern people. They enjoyed the privilege of speaking out ~~very~~ strongly against the nations of the kings because they were recognized by the people as servants of the Lord, and consequently as enjoying a certain immunity, but in this case Asa broke that and put him in a prison house. Then we have one more thing told us against Asa in Chronicles. Kings said that he was diseased in his feet, but Chronicles ~~xxx~~ in his disease he sought not the Lord but the physicians. It certainly is wrong to not seek to the Lord in any trouble that anyone may have. In the case just before this when Israel attacked, Asa ~~xxxx~~ sought not the Lord but to the wicked king of Syria. He used this human