



Greetings in the name of our LORD and Savior Jesus Christ!

Welcome to **The Well Community Indian Service**. We praise God for this beautiful beginning, which has been birthed through much prayer and the guidance of the Holy Spirit. It exists to lift the name of Jesus and to spread the Gospel to those who have not yet tasted the love of Christ, so that they too may believe in Him and glorify God.

As we begin this new journey through the Indian service, I have spent much time in prayer, seeking the Lord's presence and asking Him to speak to me—so I may speak His Word to His people. The Lord has placed a burden on my heart to preach on the theme: **“Strong Start, Stronger Finish.”**

So we will go through a series called **Strong Start, Stronger Finish** for a couple of weeks!

What does this mean exactly?

A strong beginning does **not** guarantee a faithful finish.

This truth applies deeply to our **spiritual lives**. That is why **finishing well** is more important than simply starting.

“Better is the end of a thing than its beginning...” — Ecclesiastes 7:8

Today, we are going to walk through the story of a king from the Book of **2 Chronicles**. There are many powerful lessons to learn from his life—how he started strong, and how he ended up.

Please take your Bible and turn with me to **2 Chronicles chapter 14**. Together, we'll study chapters **14, 15, and 16**, and reflect on **King Asa's journey**.

Yes, Asa—a king with a short name (just three letters)—but with a life full of lessons for us today.

Hebrew Meaning: "Healer" or "Physician" From the Hebrew root Asa meaning **to heal, to cure**

Title: Strong Start, Stronger Finish

Text: 2 Chronicles 14–16 (The Life and Lessons from King Asa)

Sermon Duration: ~40 minutes

Introduction (5 minutes)

- Introduce the sermon title: **“Strong Start, Stronger Finish.”**

I) Asa reigned over Judah – in his days the land was quiet for 10 years.

Here is the key for a peaceful life over 10 years. Look at 2 Chronicles 14:2 — **“Asa did what was good and right in the eyes of the LORD his God.”** Wow, what a decision he made in

the beginning of his days! He chose what was good for the LORD his God and what was right in the eyes of the LORD.

Okay, what can we learn?

We must choose what is good and right in the eyes of the LORD in each and everything we do. So we need to remember and ask GOD—not for our will, but **His will**. Let our desires die. You can ask for your desires but choose and accept what pleases Him—not us.

So, in daily decisions, choose to **impress Him**—not ourselves, not others. You and I need a peaceful life, and being willing to do according to **His will** is the key. **Let our own will die**.

1. The second thing he did is in **verse 3** — *“He removed the altars of the foreign gods and the high places and broke down the sacred pillars and cut down the wooden images.”*
Throw out anything that stops you from coming closer to GOD. It could be anything in our lives.
2. Then, he **commanded Judah** to **seek the LORD God of their fathers** and to observe the law and the commandment.
3. **Verse 6** — *“And he built fortified cities in Judah, for the land had rest; he had no war in those years, because the Lord had given him rest.”*

II) Asa’s Victory in Crisis – Faith in Action (8 minutes)

Text: 2 Chronicles 14:9–15

- Asa faced a massive threat from Zerah the Cushite.
- He didn’t panic; instead, **he prayed and trusted God**.
- God honored his dependence and gave Judah a great victory.

Point: God honors those who trust Him in crisis.

Application: In ministry and life, challenges are guaranteed victory comes through prayer and dependence, not panic.

Key Verse: 2 Chronicles 14:11 – *“Lord, there is no one like you to help the powerless against the mighty.”*

Supporting Verse: Psalm 20:7 – *“Some trust in chariots... but we trust in the name of the Lord our God.”*

III. Chapter 15 – Renewal and National Revival (10 minutes)

Text: 2 Chronicles 15:1–15

- God sends Prophet Azariah to encourage Asa: **“Be strong and do not give up.”**
- Asa responds with renewed energy—removing idols from all the land, repairing the altar, and calling the nation to seek the Lord.
- They entered into a covenant with great joy and worship.

Point: Revival comes through response to God's Word and full commitment.

Application: Consistency in faith requires renewal, recommitment, and obedience.

Key Verse: 2 Chronicles 15:7 – *"But as for you, be strong and do not give up, for your work will be rewarded."*

Supporting Verse: Galatians 6:9 – *"Let us not grow weary in doing good..."*

Here are the key points in chapter 14:

Enemies wanted to have war with King Asa—then what did he do?

He prayed to the LORD our GOD, and then what happened?

*"So the **Lord struck the Ethiopians before Asa and Judah**, and the Ethiopians fled."*

And if we look at **verse 15:17** — *"But the high places were not removed from Israel."*

Nevertheless, the heart of Asa was loyal all his days."

What a beautiful and powerful lifestyle he lived before the LORD.

Yes, this is the life everybody wants and would like to pursue.

IV. Chapter 16 : Trusting Man Over God (10 minutes)

Text: 2 Chronicles 16:1–10

- Asa is now older and established, but he begins to trust in human alliances (King of Aram) instead of seeking the Lord.
- Prophet Hanani rebukes Asa: **"You relied on the king of Aram and not on the Lord."**
- Asa gets angry, oppresses people, and even imprisons the prophet.

Point: Even godly people can lose their way when they stop seeking God. There is always a chance.

Application: Spiritual consistency means never graduating from dependence on God.

Key Verse: 2 Chronicles 16:9 – *"For the eyes of the Lord range throughout the earth to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him."*

Supporting Verse: Proverbs 3:5-6 – *"Trust in the Lord with all your heart..."*

V. Asa's Final Days – The Tragic Ending (5 minutes)

Text: 2 Chronicles 16:11–14

- Asa became severely diseased in his feet, yet even in his illness, he did not seek the Lord, but only physicians.

Do you remember what he did in chapters 14 and 15 when he faced trouble?

He went to the Lord. But what happened in chapter 16? He did not seek the LORD.

Oh my GOD, this is a completely life-changing decision made without GOD.

- His story ends with a note of unfulfilled potential.

Point: Ending well is the true sign of lasting faith.

Application: Our faith journey must finish strong—not just start strong.

Key Reflection: Asa's name means "healer," yet he forgot the true Healer.

Supporting Verse: Hebrews 12:1–2 – *"...let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus..."*

Conclusion & Invitation (2–3 minutes)

- Recap Asa's journey: **Strong start, faith in crisis, revival, decline, and missed opportunity.**
- **Challenge:** Will we finish stronger than we began?
- Encourage the church to commit not just to beginnings, but to **daily dependence, humility, and faithfulness.**
- Lead in a prayer of rededication.

I once heard someone say, *"At the end, there will be only one story—the story of your life."*

How do you want to write your story?

With a good start—and a **stronger finish**? Or A good beginning with a disappointing end?

- "It's not how you start the race, but how you finish that defines you."
- "Many begin with fire but end in ashes."
- Think about what you have started but are not trying to finish. Maybe you started reading the Bible at the beginning of the year but haven't continued. Maybe you wanted to use your talents for the LORD, but you stopped somewhere along the way. **This is the time to start again from where you left off and move toward finishing the race.**
- Look at what Paul says: *"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith."* **(2 Timothy 4:7)**
- Hebrews 12:1–2 says:
"...let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus..."
- We have started a new service today. Let us continue faithfully. If trouble comes, we know where to go. We have learned from King Asa—we go **directly to GOD**, not to men.
- Let's pray. While we are praying, I would encourage everyone to **decide to finish the race you have started.**
Don't give up in the middle—**God will help you.**
May the LORD bless you.

Next Sunday, we are going through **Isaac's wells** as part of our series **Strong Start, Stronger Finish**. It's easy to remember because Isaac's wells beautifully connect with the name of our church, *The Well*. I encourage you all to read Genesis chapter 26 before coming to church next Sunday. I hope you'll find some good time this week to do that.