

Corrupt Copycat

Which would be worse for you—to be killed in battle or be enslaved for life?

Read 2 Chronicles 28:1-27.

1. If you became the monarch of a country (like Ahaz did at the age of 20), what priorities would you have?

- A. To follow in the footsteps of my parents who ruled before I did.
- B. To build up the military.
- C. To make the people in my kingdom happy.
- D. To do whatever I want to do.
- E. To direct the entire nation to God.
- F. To prevent pandemics.
- G. To make my country great.
- H. To pray for wisdom like Solomon did (2 Chronicles 1:7-10).
- I. Other.

2. Rank (1-8) Ahaz's activities based on how offensive they are to you.

- _____ Rejecting the positive examples of previous monarchs.
- _____ Rejecting God.
- _____ Making pagan idols.
- _____ Offering sacrifices at pagan altars.
- _____ Sacrificing one's own children to pagan gods.
- _____ Burning incense as you pray to pagan gods.
- _____ Following the gods of pagan nations God previously judged.
- _____ Other: _____

3. Pick the casualty you think was worst for King Ahaz.

- A. He was defeated by the king of Aram.
- B. He was defeated by the king of Israel.
- C. His son died.
- D. His palace commander died.
- E. He lost a large number of citizens to exile in Damascus.
- F. Many in his army were killed (120,000 in one day—vs. 6).
- G. He lost 200,000 women and children from Judah to exile in Israel.
- H. He lost a lot of material goods when he was plundered.
- I. Other.

4. Mark what Israel did right (+) and wrong (-) in relating to those from Judah.
- A. () Defeated Judah.
 - B. () Killed 120,000 in one day.
 - C. () Plundered the people of Judah.
 - D. () Enslaved the women and children of Judah.
 - E. () Had a prophet in Samaria, the capital of Israel.
 - F. () Overkilled to the point of upsetting heaven.
 - G. () Cared for and then released their prisoners.
 - H. () Escorted their prisoners back home.
 - I. () Other.
5. What seemed to be Ahaz's strategy?
- A. He didn't seem to have any strategy.
 - B. To lose everything.
 - C. To worship God.
 - D. To worship pagan gods.
 - E. To copy the example of those who trampled over him.
 - F. To rely on powerful kings from other nations.
 - G. To call out for help from God.
 - H. To worship the gods of those who defeated him.
 - I. Other.
6. What would you have done to be faithful in a situation like this?
- A. Confronted King Ahaz.
 - B. Kept to myself—wouldn't have wanted to cause any problems.
 - C. Organized a protest to reopen the temple.
 - D. Destroyed pagan altars and shrines.
 - E. Supported the king.
 - F. Begun a small group worship service in my house.
 - G. Become secular—no god(s) at all for me.
 - H. Prayed and cried out to God.
 - I. Other.
7. Why didn't Ahaz change? Why don't you change?
8. Who are your role models? Who do you copy? How do you avoid the things that could corrupt you?