

Digging Deeper: The Greater Meaning of 2 Chronicles 15:7

Saturday, October 24, 2026

“But you, be strong and do not become discouraged, for your activity will be rewarded.” (2 Chronicles 15:7)

After King Asa won a battle, God’s spirit moved the prophet Azariah to meet him with a message: “Jehovah is with you as long as you remain with him.” (2 Chronicles 15:2) Then he urged Asa to keep going, because his work for Jehovah would pay off. The main point is that effort in Jehovah’s service is never wasted. As the day’s text explains, that holds true for a young person just learning to talk about his faith. Like learning a musical instru-

ment, it starts simple and gets easier with practice, and Jehovah values every try.

1 “Be Strong”: Getting a Firm Grip (צָזַק, *cha·zaq*)

The word for “be strong” comes from the Hebrew צָזַק (*cha·zaq*), which means to be strong, to grow firm, or to take hold tightly. It is not about big muscles. It describes inner courage that gets stronger as you lean on Jehovah.

Asa took this to heart right away. Verse 8 says that as soon as he heard these words, “he took courage,” using the same Hebrew word, and he removed the idols from the land. (2 Chronicles 15:8) Courage grew as he acted.

- Courage often comes after the first step, not before it. A young one who tries a simple conversation at school is building strength each time.

2 “Do Not Become Discouraged”: Don’t Let Your Hands Drop (רָפַח, *ra·phah*)

The phrase “do not become discouraged” literally says “do not let your hands drop,” as the NWT footnote shows. The verb is רָפַח (*ra·phah*), which means to sink down, go slack, or lose strength. It paints a picture of someone so tired or disheartened that he lets his arms fall and stops working.

Azariah knew Asa’s people had lived through hard, unsettled times. (2 Chronicles 15:5, 6) It would have been easy to give up. But Jehovah was asking them to keep their hands up and keep working.

- When a conversation about the Bible goes nowhere, it’s tempting to quit trying. Parents can help their children keep their “hands” up by encouraging them and practicing with them.

3 “Rewarded”: There Is Pay for Your Work (שָׂכָר, *sa·khar*)

The Hebrew behind “your activity will be rewarded” says, word for word, “there is a reward for your work.” The word שָׂכָר (*sa·khar*) means wages or pay, what a worker earns. The word for “activity” is פְּעֻלָּה (*pe‘ul·lah*), meaning work or deeds. So Jehovah views our service like honest work that he will surely pay for.

Paul gave the same assurance: “God is not unrighteous so as to forget your work and the love you showed for his name.” (Hebrews 6:10) And speaking up matters, because “with the mouth one makes public declaration for salvation.” (Romans 10:10)

- Even a short question to a school-mate, like asking who deserves credit for designs in nature, is work Jehovah sees and will reward.

Key Spiritual Reflections

- **Taking the First Step:** What simple way could I (*or my child*) start a conversation about Jehovah this week? (2 Chronicles 15:8)
- **Keeping My Hands Up:** When I feel discouraged in the ministry, what helps me keep going instead of quitting? (2 Chronicles 15:7)
- **Trusting the Reward:** How does knowing that Jehovah never forgets my work change the way I see my small efforts? (Hebrews 6:10)