

# **King Uzziah**

***Danger at the Top***

***Born As King.***

***Died A Leper !***

**2 Chronicles 26:1-23**

## Kings of Judah (i.e.Southern Kingdom)

Rehoboam	17 years	}	
Abijah	3 years	}	▶ Bad Mostly
Asa	41 years	}	
Jehoshaphat	25 years	}	▶ Good
Jehoram	8 years	}	
Ahaziah	1 year	}	▶ Bad
Athaliah	6 years	}	▶ Devilish
Joash	40 years	}	
Amaziah	29 years	}	▶ Good Mostly
Uzziah	52 years	}	
Jotham	16 years	}	▶ Good
Ahaz	16 years	}	▶ Wicked
Hezekiah	29 years	}	▶ The Best
Manasseh	55 years	}	
Amon	2 years	}	▶ The Worst
Josiah	31 years	}	▶ The Best
Jehoahaz	3 months	}	▶ Bad
Jehoiakim	11 years	}	▶ Wicked
Jehoiachin	3 months	}	
Zedekiah	11 years	}	▶ Bad

**Kingdom endured ~390 years**

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After his father Amaziah was murdered,  
at 16, he became king of Judah.  
In 2Kings 15, he was also known as Azariah  
(Yahweh is my strength)  
He ruled for 52 years!

**Kingdom endured ~390 years**

# Uzziah's Accomplishments

- **Military:** Army of **307,500 men**, invented catapults that shot arrows & huge stones, built numerous fortifications in & around Jerusalem & extended his domain.
- **He became famous & was a strong king.**
- **Domestic:** Made reservoirs for the great herds of cattle & his people.
- Prosperity (v. 10)
  - Livestock, vineyards, farming, cisterns

# 1<sup>st</sup> : **Pride Exalts Self & Forgets God** who is the source of our success

**“His fame spread far & wide, for he was greatly helped until he became powerful. But after Uzziah became powerful, his pride led to his downfall.”** 2 Chron 26:15 -16

**“...eaten and *full* & have built goodly houses & live in them & when your *herds & flocks, silver & gold* is multiplied & *all you have is multiplied*. Then your minds & hearts be lifted up & you forget the Lord your God...”**

Deut 8:12-14

## 2<sup>nd</sup> : He failed the *Praise & Success Test.*

– *Ammonites gave him tribute*

– *Egyptians knew about him*

2Chron 26:8

Praise filled Uzziah's heart with pride. *Then he forgot God, became conceited & did it his Way!*

Pride manifested itself to God 1<sup>st</sup>. Then to friends, colleagues, employer, spouse or children.

# **3<sup>rd</sup> Pride Caused Us to Do Things That's Not Right !**

***"...He was unfaithful to the Lord his God & entered the temple of the Lord to burn incense on the altar."***

**2 Chron 26:16**

***"He Azariah (Uzziah) did right in the Lord's sight, in keeping with all his father Amaziah had done. Except the high places were not removed; the people sacrificed & burned incense still on the high places."***

**2 King 15: 3-4**

**All elements of worship which lack divine warrant are forbidden  
!**

## **4<sup>th</sup>: *Pride Confronted...***

**“Azariah the priest with 80 other courageous priests of the LORD followed him. They confronted him & said , *“It is not right for you, Uzziah, to burn incense to the LORD. That is for the priests, the descendants of Aaron, who have been consecrated to burn incense.”***

2 Chron 26:17-18

**When pride develops in our hearts, it will manifest itself. Uzziah was not a priest & **had no right to burn incense on the altar.****

# **5<sup>th</sup> : *Pride when Confronted Become Defensive & Angry...***

**“Then Uzziah was angry. *Now he had a censer in his hand to burn incense, & when he became angry with the priests, leprosy broke out on his forehead in the presence of the priests in the house of the Lord...***

2 Chron 26:19

Uzziah lost everything & became a leper when he forgot that *the source* of all his victory, power, & fame was *based on obedience to God's Word & His sovereignty.*

***The epitaph to PRIDE:***  
***“From King to LEPER!”***

This is what the Lord says, ***“Let not the wise boast of his wisdom or the strong boast of his strength or the rich boast of his riches, but let him who boasts boast about this: that he understands & knows Me, that I am the LORD, who exercises kindness, justice & righteousness on earth, for in these I delight”***

***Jer 9:23-24***

# ***What can we learn from Uzziah?***

## **God's Providence**

### ***Lesson 1:***

#### **The Uzziah Principle**

***Blessed, Genuine & Lasting  
Success Possible Only with  
God. "As long as he sought  
(inquired of, yearned for)  
The Lord, God gave him  
success.***

*2 Chronicles 26:5*



# ***What can we learn from Uzziah?***

## ***Don't let human praise destroy us!***


### **Lesson 2: Pass the PRAISE / PRIDE Test**

The **crucible** for silver & the **furnace** for gold,  
but man is tested by the **praise** he receives.

*Pro 27:21*

***The TOP, can be a precarious place.***

When God blesses us with success, let's walk  
***humbly***, live ***quietly*** & ***gratefully*** in the  
presence of God & not be overwhelmed by

... **PR**  **DE** ...

# ***What can we learn from Uzziah?***

## ***God is both the Giver & the Judge!***

### **Lesson 3: God Gives! He can also take away!**

<sup>14</sup> ***if my people, will humble themselves & pray & seek my face & turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven & will forgive their sin & will heal their land...***

<sup>19\_20</sup> ***"if you turn away & forsake the decrees & commands I've given you & serve other gods & worship them, then I'll uproot Israel from my land, which I've given them, & will reject this temple I've consecrated for my Name.***

**2 Chronicles 7:14, 19-20**

# *Invitation :* *Start & Finish Humbly with God!*

The famous inventor Samuel Morse was asked ,

**“Have you ever encountered situations  
when you didn't know what to do?”**

***If you are Samuel Morse,  
what will your answer Be?***

## ***Invitation : Start & Finish Humbly with God!***

Morse replied, "More than once & whenever I couldn't see my way clearly, ***I knelt down, prayed to God for light & understanding.*** And I'm ***not superior to other men but God meant it for mankind & must reveal it through someone & He was pleased to reveal it to me.***"

Morse received many honors for inventing the telegraph but ***remained humbly dependent on God & not self.***

***“As long as he sought (inquired of, yearned for) The Lord, God gave him success. 2 Chronicles 26:5***