



CELL GUIDE

TOPIC Led by a Perfect God – King Jotham

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THEME Old Testament Kings of Judah

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MESSAGE SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

This sermon is a part of the series of lessons from the lives of several Old Testament Kings of Judah.

The kings were recorded as the ones who “did what was right in the eyes of the Lord. The goal is for us to learn from the good and bad examples, and see the impact of their good and bad decisions.

For this sermon, we focus on the life of King Jotham, son of King Uzziah and father of King Ahaz. (2 Chronicles 27: 1 - 9).

GOD IS PERFECT

GOD IS PERFECT... EVEN WHEN HIS PEOPLE ARE NOT

Jotham means “God is perfect”. God is always perfect in spite of human failings and unfavourable circumstances. Jotham himself witnessed first hand his father’s rise (2 Chronicles 26:5b, 15) and sudden fall from grace. Imagine the shock Jotham had when his father contracted leprosy and was suddenly cut off from the people for the rest of his life.

Jotham reacted by doing what was right in the eyes of the Lord and avoided his father’s grave mistake. (2 Chronicles 27:2).

GOD IS PERFECT... EVEN WHEN WE ARE NOT

Jotham had the unenviable task of being co-regent for ten years after his father was cut off from the house of the Lord. “And Jotham the king’s son was over the royal house, judging the people of the land.” (2 Kings 15:5b). Jotham was placed in a difficult position to rule while his father was alive and separated from the people.

Have you ever been put in a position where you felt inadequate or not good enough? How did Jotham overcome his inadequacy?

Jotham became mighty, because he prepared his ways before the LORD his God (2 Chronicles 25:6).

GOD IS PERFECT... EVEN WHEN THE CIRCUMSTANCES ARE NOT

Jotham did not have an easy time being Judah's ruler. He faced wars with his neighbours – the Ammonites, Israel and Syria. Unlike His father King Uzziah and King Amaziah, the Bible chronicles the wars King Jotham faced during his reign “and all his wars and his ways.”

King Jotham not only managed to keep things from falling apart, but the Bible records that he became mighty.

FAITHFULNESS IN THE MIDST OF FAILURES

However, King Jotham faced two major failures – his people still acted corruptly (Isaiah 6) and he was deposed by his son, who did evil in the sight of the Lord.

Yet Jotham remained faithful, no matter the circumstances.

He did not take matters into his own hands, but continued to trust in God.

Jotham has the distinction of no character flaw or unfaithful moment recorded unlike the other good kings of Judah (e.g. Asa, Jehoshaphat, Joash and Uzziah).

How can we remain faithful to the path God has called us to, no matter the circumstances?

Just like Jotham, none of us are perfect. We are all sinners, every one of us. Yet, if we seek God, and keep our faith in Him like Jotham did, God too will make us perfect in Jesus Christ.

CONCLUSION

God is always perfect.
Even when His people are not.
Even when we are not.
Even when circumstances are not.

So always treasure, seek and trust God.

QUESTIONS

1. King Jotham is considered a good king in the Bible. From 2 Chronicles 27:1-9, what did he do that showed he was a God-fearing king? If there is one word for you to describe King Jotham relationship with God, what would it be? Why?

2. Have you been hurt or betrayed by a Christian whom you once respected? Are you in an unjust situation? Do you sometimes feel inadequate in your work, school, or ministry? Share your experience on how your choice to focus on God has strengthened your faith.

3. The Truth is God is perfect even when people, ourselves and circumstances are not. How can this Truth help you to counsel or share Christ with a friend, colleague, family member who is going through challenges in their lives?