Pride and Piety A Study of Uzziah's Life | 2 Chr. 26



1. Rehoboam 2. Abijah 3. Asa 4. Jehoshaphat 5. Jehoram 6. Athaliah 7. Ahaziah 8. Joash 9. Amaziah 0.Uzziah

11. Jotham 🗸 12. Ahaz 13. Hezekiah 14. Manasseh 15. Amon 16. Josiah 17. Jehoahaz 18. Jehoiakim 19. Jehoiachin 20. Zedekiah

Outline

Uzziah's Piety and Prosperity Uzziah's Pride and Punishment

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Uzi (עזי) = my strength Uzziah (עזיה) = my strength is Yah

2 Chr. 26:1 And all the people of Judah took Uzziah, who was sixteen years old, and made him king instead of his father Amaziah.

2 Chr. 26:2 He built Eloth and restored it to Judah, after the king slept with his fathers.

2 Chr. 26:3 Uzziah was 16 years old when he began to reign, and he reigned 52 years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Jecoliah of Jerusalem.

2 Chr. 26:4 And he did what was right in the eyes of the Lord, according to all that his father Amaziah had done.

2 Chr. 26:5 He set himself to seek God in the days of Zechariah, who instructed him in the fear of God, and as long as he sought the Lord, God made him prosper.

Godly upbringing (2 Chr. 25:2) Grandfather killed (2 Chr. 24:25) Made king at 16 (2 Chr. 26:1) First child at 32 (2 Chr. 27:1) Restored Eloth at 39 (2 Chr. 26:2)

Eloth Panorama

jordan

saudi arabia

egypt

israel

Piety

Private holiness

A genuine, earnest longing to please God

Pro. 22:6 Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it.

Be a Zechariah!
 Your young Uzziahs will be blessed
 Bioty brings Prosperity

Piety brings Prosperity

2 Chr. 26:6a He went out and made war against the Philistines and broke through the wall of Gath and the wall of Jabneh and the wall of Ashdod

2 Chr. 26:6b and he built cities in the territory of Ashdod and elsewhere among the Philistines.

2 Chr. 26:7 God helped him against the Philistines and against the Arabians who lived in Gurbaal and against the Meunites.

2 Chr. 26:8 The Ammonites paid tribute to Uzziah, and his fame spread even to the border of Egypt, for he became very strong.

Pro. 16:7 When a man's ways please the Lord, he makes even his enemies to be at peace with him.

2 Chr. 26:9 Moreover, Uzziah built towers in Jerusalem at the Corner Gate and at the Valley Gate and at the Angle, and fortified them.

2 Chr. 26:10a And he built towers in the wilderness and cut out many cisterns, for he had large herds,

2 Chr. 26:10b both in the Shephelah and in the plain, and he had farmers and vinedressers in the hills and in the fertile lands, for he loved the soil.

2 Chr. 26:11a Moreover, Uzziah had an army of soldiers, fit for war, in divisions according to the numbers in the muster made by Jeiel the secretary

2 Chr. 26:11b and Maaseiah the officer, under the direction of Hananiah, one of the king's commanders.

2 Chr. 26:12 The whole number of the heads of fathers' houses of mighty men of valor was 2,600.

2 Chr. 26:13 Under their command was an army of 307,500, who could make war with mighty power, to help the king against the enemy.

2 Chr. 26:14 And Uzziah prepared for all the army shields, spears, helmets, coats of mail, bows, and stones for slinging.

2 Chr. 26:15a In Jerusalem he made machines, invented by skillful men, to be on the towers and the corners, to shoot arrows and great stones.

2 Chr. 26:15b And his fame spread far, for he was marvelously helped, till he was strong.

 Piety brings Prosperity
 Uzziah's piety was rewarded by military, diplomatic, agricultural & scientific prosperity

Seek God wholeheartedly (Deut. 4:29, Jer. 29:13)
Read your Bible
Pray every day

Obey and be blessed (Deu. 28)
Disobey and be cursed (Deu. 28)
God rewards – and generously (Isa. 40:10, Rev. 22:12)



"Consider the unblushing promises of reward and the staggering nature of the rewards promised in the Gospels!"

- C.S. Lewis, The Weight of Glory

Uzziah's Piety and Prosperity

Ps. 73:12-13 These are the wicked; always at ease, they increase in riches. All in vain have I kept my heart clean and washed my hands in innocence!

Uzziah's Piety and Prosperity

Ps. 73:17-18 I went into the sanctuary of God; then I discerned their end. Truly you set them in slippery places; you make them fall to ruin!

Piety brings Prosperity

Application: Read Bible Pray for your HDB block Volunteer at BCS Be a blessing

Outline

Uzziah's Piety and Prosperity Uzziah's Pride and Punishment

Zech. 14:5 (cf. Amos 1:1) You shall flee as you fled from the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah.

Earthquake at 46 (Amos 1:1)
Grandfather at 52 (2 Chr. 28:1)
Leprosy at 56 (2 Chr. 26:16)
Death at 66 (2 Chr. 26:23)

2 Chr. 26:16a But when he was strong, he grew proud, to his destruction.

2 Chr. 26:16b For he was unfaithful to the Lord his God and entered the temple of the Lord to burn incense on the altar of incense.

Num. 3:10 Aaron and his sons...shall attend to their priesthood; but the outsider who comes near shall be put to death.

Num. 16:40 No outsider...should draw near to burn incense before the LORD, lest he become like Korah and his company.

2 Chr. 26:17 But Azariah the priest went in after him, with eighty priests of the Lord who were men of valor

2 Chr. 26:18a and they withstood King Uzziah and said to him, "It is not for you, Uzziah, to burn incense to the Lord

2 Chr. 26:18b but for the priests, the sons of Aaron, who are consecrated to burn incense.

2 Chr. 26:18c Go out of the sanctuary, for you have done wrong, and it will bring you no honor from the Lord God."

2 Chr. 26:19a Then Uzziah was angry. Now he had a censer in his hand to burn incense, and when he became angry with the priests,

2 Chr. 26:19b leprosy broke out on his forehead in the presence of the priests in the house of the Lord, by the altar of incense.

2 Chr. 26:20a And Azariah the chief priest and all the priests looked at him, and behold, he was leprous in his forehead!

2 Chr. 26:20b And they rushed him out quickly, and he himself hurried to go out, because the Lord had struck him.

Lev. 13:46 He shall remain unclean as long as he has the disease. He is unclean. He shall live alone. His dwelling shall be outside the camp.

Num. 12:2 Has the LORD indeed spoken only through Moses? Has he not spoken through us also?

2 Chr. 26:21a And King Uzziah was a leper to the day of his death, and being a leper lived in a separate house, for he was excluded from the house of the Lord.

2 Chr. 26:21b And Jotham his son was over the king's household, governing the people of the land.

2 Chr. 26:22 Now the rest of the acts of Uzziah, from first to last, Isaiah the prophet the son of Amoz wrote.

2 Chr. 26:23a And Uzziah slept with his fathers, and they buried him with his fathers in the burial field that belonged to the kings, for they said, "He is a leper."

2 Chr. 26:23b And Jotham his son reigned in his place.

Isa. 6:1 In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up.

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Pro. 16:18 Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.

Jas. 4:6 God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.

Pride brings Punishment

Beware Pride disguised as Piety Read Bible Pray for your HDB block Volunteer at BCS Be a blessing

Pride brings Punishment

Application:
Repent from past pride
Plead for mercy & grace
Guard against future pride

Conclusion

Piety brings Prosperity, so be pious! Pride brings Punishment, so shun pride!