

FINAL STUDY NOTES – 2 Chronicles Chapters 26-28 9/7-8/2026

CLASSROOM LOCATION AND ZOOM – SIGN IN INFORMATION:

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NOTE WE WILL CONTINUE TO NEED A PASSCODE TO JOIN THE ONLINE (ZOOM) STUDY!

MONDAY 7 PM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 PM PACIFIC DAYLIGHT SAVINGS Time (US and Canada)

THE MONDAY NIGHT STUDY WILL BE MEETING ON ZOOM ONLY UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE!

MEETING ID - 878 5864 4763 Passcode: 087484

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TUESDAY 7 AM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 AM PACIFIC DAYLIGHT SAVINGS Time (US and Canada).

TUES MORNING MTG PLACE: 1201 KEY WEST, CORONA DEL MAR (shown as 1201 KW, Corona del Mar, CA 92625) on Global Positioning System (GPS) in automobiles. For driving directions, suggest using (waze.com/live map) or *MapQuest* (mapquest.com), **AS WELL AS CONTINUING IN ZOOM!**

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OPENING PRAYER

LAST WEEK: **2 Chronicles Chapter 23 – Joash** Crowned King of Judah; Death of Athaliah. **Chapter 24** – Joash Repairs the Temple; Apostasy of Joash; Death of Joash. **Chapter 25 – Amaziah** Reigns in Judah; The War Against Edom; Israel Defeats Judah; Death of Amaziah.

THIS WEEK: 2 Chronicles Chapter 26 – Uzziah Reigns in Judah – (vs. 1-15); The Penalty for Uzziah's Pride – (vs. 16-23). **Chapter 27 – Jotham** Reigns in Judah – (vs. 1-9); **Chapter 28 – Ahaz** Reigns in Judah – (vs. 1-4); Syria and Israel Defeat Judah – (vs. 5-8); Israel Returns the Captives – (vs. 9-15); Assyria Refused to Help Judah – (vs. 16-21); Apostasy and Death of Ahaz – (vs. 22-27).

Uzziah (also called Azariah) Reigns in Judah -

2Ch 26:1-2 Now all the people of Judah took Uzziah, who was sixteen years old, and made him king instead of his father Amaziah. [2] He built Elath and restored it to Judah, after the king rested with his fathers.

- We remember from last week that Amaziah, the father of Uzziah began his reign well. God gave him victory over the Edomites, but then he did an extremely foolish thing. He brought back the idols of their gods and began to worship them. So God delivered Amaziah to the king of Israel as they faced off at Beth Shemesh.

Joash the king of Israel, then came to Jerusalem, broke down part of the walls, took away hostages and treasure. Amaziah was assassinated.

- **Elath is strategic for trade in the south.** So to control this city was a significant accomplishment for Uzziah to regain that city from the control of the Edomites after they had taken it away from Judah during the reign of Jehoram.

2Ch 26:3 Uzziah was sixteen years old when he became king, and he reigned fifty-two years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Jecholiah of Jerusalem.

- **Reigned fifty-two years - A long reign.** Only Manasseh's reign of fifty-five years was longer.

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

- **Uzziah was one of these good kings of the southern kingdom of Judah.** He will falter here a bit at the end, disobediently offering a sacrifice in the temple, becoming a leper, but by and large he was a righteous king.
- **In going through the kings of Israel, their lives are always summarized** as to whether they did that which was right in the sight of the LORD, or that which was evil in the sight of the LORD. Ultimately all life in eternity is evaluated that way

2Ch 26:5 He sought God in the days of Zechariah, who had understanding in the visions of God; and as long as he (Uzziah) sought the LORD, God made him prosper.

- **This is not Zechariah the prophet that the book is named after in the Bible.** As long as Uzziah sought the LORD, God made him prosper. As a young king, he surrounded himself with deeply spiritual men. Apparently Zechariah was kind of a spiritual mentor to him and coming to the throne at such a young age. The prophets of Joel, Amos, and Hosea, were all prophesying at this time.
- **Putting God first in our lives is so important.** If we put God first in our lives, God will take care of the other issues of our lives. If we put first the other issues of our lives, then we will be so busy trying to take care of the other issues, we will have no time for God.
- **Uzziah was an excellent illustration of what Jesus says to each of us! He sought the LORD! God made him prosper! (Mat 6:33) But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.**
- **Uzziah is a classic example, as long as he sought the Lord; God made his ways prosper.** Then we read of his prosperity. Prosperity in the field of battle, conquering over his enemies. Now the Philistines were perennial enemies. A strong people, and they inhabited the coastal areas, the southern coastal areas of Israel. They were a very strong people and powerful people, a perennial enemy to Israel.

2Ch 26:6 Now he went out and made war against the Philistines, and broke down the wall of Gath, the wall of Jabneh, and the wall of Ashdod; and he built cities around Ashdod and among the Philistines.

- **Uzziah established west bank settlements in the Philistine territory.** What the Jews are doing today is not really anything new. It is a practice that Uzziah did.

2Ch 26:7-8 God helped him against the Philistines, against the Arabians who lived in Gur Baal, and against the Meunites. [8] Also the Ammonites brought tribute to Uzziah. His fame spread as far as the entrance of Egypt, for he became exceedingly strong.

- **These perennial enemies surrounded Israel.** During Uzziah's reign, he was able to beat them back for a generation so that Judah could know peace. God gave him great victories over these very dangerous enemies that surrounded Judah. As a result, his fame spread as far as the entrance of Egypt, for he *became exceedingly strong*.

2Ch 26:9 And Uzziah built towers in Jerusalem at the Corner Gate, at the Valley Gate, and at the corner buttress of the wall; then he fortified them.

- **Under the reign of his father Amaziah, when he had the war with Israel,** Joash came to Jerusalem and tore down six hundred feet of the wall. Now Uzziah is repairing the wall of Jerusalem. Not only does he repair the wall, but he built towers on the walls near the gates for extra protection.

2Ch 26:10 Also he built towers in the desert. He dug many wells, for he had much livestock, both in the lowlands and in the plains; he also had farmers and vinedressers in the mountains and in Carmel, for he loved the soil.

- **He is a rancher and he is a farmer. He loved the soil. He is just a good solid man.** We want to understand this about him because when he fails later in the chapter, we realize, if that can happen to this kind of man, it can happen to me! I must be alert to that in my own life.

2Ch 26:11-12 Moreover Uzziah had an army of fighting men who went out to war by companies, according to the number on their roll as prepared by Jeiel the scribe and Maaseiah the officer, under the hand of Hananiah, one of the king's captains. [12] The total number of chief officers of the mighty men of valor was two thousand six hundred.

- Uzziah had a very well-organized, well-disciplined army. The total number of the chief officers of the mighty men of valor was 2,600. Not only did he have a great military, but he made sure that they had great officers.

2Ch 26:13-15 And under their authority was an army of three hundred and seven thousand five hundred (307,500), that made war with mighty power, to help the king against the enemy. [14] Then Uzziah prepared for them, for the entire army, shields, spears, helmets, body armor, bows, and slings to cast stones. [15] And he made devices in Jerusalem, invented by skillful men, to be on the towers and the corners, to shoot arrows and large stones. So his fame spread far and wide, for he was marvelously helped till he became strong.

- They devised these inventions, these machines for shooting arrows; machines that would hurl these big stones, which could do great damage to a city wall. He had a well armored army with the shields, the helmets, and their bows, and slings.
- *So his fame spread far and wide.* He was an extremely popular king. Everyone was talking about Uzziah. He was admired and looked up to by the people.
- *For he was marvelously helped till he became strong.* Uzziah was wonderfully helped by the LORD to build fortified places, raise a powerful army, and provide all kinds of armor for them, and invent potent machines as would cause the enemies to fear them. The people of Judah **had tremendous confidence**. They were not worried about their enemies; they were not worried about their problems. It was a time of national prosperity.
- **When Uzziah died there was this unrest at his death. But notice (Isa 6:1) In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up, and the train of His robe filled the temple.** The throne is empty, Uzziah's dead! But no! The throne is not empty! Isaiah had the vision of the LORD sitting on the throne! What confidence that brings when you realize God rules and God reigns!

Uzziah's Pride and Punishment

2Ch 26:16 But when he was strong his heart was lifted up, to his destruction, for he transgressed against the LORD his God by entering the temple of the LORD to burn incense on the altar of incense.

- Now tragedy strikes! Uzziah's heart was lifted up, pride to his own destruction. (*Pro 16:18*) **Pride goes before destruction, And a haughty spirit before a fall.** There is a danger in prosperity. There is a danger to success, feeling independent of God, feeling that you can do anything. That we can somehow put God aside, and we can live independent of God. **Again a reminder of the problem of pride! Are these reminders helping me? Am I more humble now than before?**
- Now, here is Uzziah following the same, foolish mistake of Saul, Israel's first king, in that he goes into the temple to offer incense at the altar of incense, which was specifically reserved for the priests. He is treading into an area where he does not belong.
- **He is seeking to do something that God did not call him to do.** Though it may look on the surface as, This is a part of my worship of God! But God has prescribed the way He is to be approached, and the way He is to be worshiped! If we do not follow God's prescribed patterns, then we are intruding in areas where we have no business being.

2Ch 26:17-18 So Azariah the priest went in after him, and with him were eighty priests of the LORD—valiant men. [18] And they withstood King Uzziah, and said to him, "It is not for you, Uzziah, to burn incense to the LORD, but for the priests, the sons of Aaron, who are consecrated to burn incense. Get out of the sanctuary, for you have trespassed! You shall have no honor from the LORD God."

- That is the job of the priests. "Get out of here!" Uzziah raised his hand against the high priest, but as he did, they were amazed, because they saw leprosy break out all over his body. So, the LORD smote him with this leprosy, because of his intrusion into an office to which he was not called! Now God called him to be a king. God did not call him to be a priest! Thus, he had no right intruding into the area of the priesthood.
- **It is important to know what God has called you to be and not try to be something God did not make you.** One of the frustrations of the Christian experience, is created by our endeavor to be something that God did not make us.

- ***Is there any part of my ministry that I am trying to fulfill, that the Lord has not called me to? Lord, help me to spend my time and effort only on those things that You have called me to do, especially when new areas of ministry opportunities arise.***
- They were brave to withstand the king. They stood before him, rebuking him for this impertinent act. Reminding him that this is a job that belongs to the sons of Aaron. Men who have been consecrated to this task. This is not the job of the king! Instead of repenting, he became angry, a very common mistake! May God help us.
- ***What is my response to being rebuked and corrected? Is there any tendency to get angry and resist correction like Saul and Uzziah did?***

2Ch 26:19 Then Uzziah became furious; and he had a censer in his hand to burn incense. And while he was angry with the priests, leprosy broke out on his forehead, before the priests in the house of the LORD, beside the incense altar.

- According to the law of Moses, a leper was not to come into the house of the LORD, not even into the temple precincts!

2Ch 26:20 And Azariah the chief priest and all the priests looked at him, and there, on his forehead, he was leprous; so they thrust him out of that place. Indeed he also hurried to get out, because the LORD had struck him.

- Now I do not believe that the LORD would have smitten Uzziah, had he been receptive to the rebuke. Had he said, "LORD, I am sorry that I have sinned against You, I have done wrong!" He would have been forgiven.
- Also, even after breaking out with leprosy, had he repented, and confessed, that the LORD would have healed him of his leprosy, as He did Miriam, Moses' sister, who was smitten with leprosy for speaking against Moses after his prayer of confession. God healed her. I think the same would have been of Uzziah, but there seemed to be no repentance.

2Ch 26:21 King Uzziah was a leper until the day of his death. He dwelt in an isolated house, because he was a leper; for he was cut off from the house of the LORD. Then Jotham his son was over the king's house (co-regent - for 11 years), judging the people of the land.

- Jotham reigns as a co-regent for about 11 years, reigning alongside of his father. His father being the king, but being a leper, is unable to execute all of the responsibilities of the throne. So his son Jotham reigns alongside.

2Ch 26:22-23 Now the rest of the acts of Uzziah, from first to last, the prophet Isaiah the son of Amoz wrote (recorded). [23] So Uzziah rested with his fathers, and they buried him with his fathers in the field of burial which belonged to the kings, for they said, "He is a leper." Then Jotham his son reigned in his place.

- At his death, Uzziah, having died in leprosy, was not buried in the graves of the kings, but in the burial-field which belonged to the kings, that his body might not defile the royal graves.

Jotham Reigns in Judah

2Ch 27:1-2 Jotham was twenty-five years old when he became king, and he reigned sixteen years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Jerushah the daughter (descendant) of Zadok. [2] And he did what was right in the sight of the LORD, according to all that his father Uzziah had done (although he did not enter the temple of the LORD). But still the people acted corruptly.

- Jotham did what was right according to all that Uzziah had done with the exception that he fortunately did not make the mistake of entering the temple to wrongfully make sacrifices!
- There is nothing negatively recorded in Chronicles regarding Jotham. In (2Ki 15:35a) *However the high places were not removed; the people (continued) still sacrificed and burned incense on the high places.*
- If you take the eight good kings of Judah; Asa, Jehoshaphat, Joash, Amaziah, Azariah (Uzziah), Jotham, Hezekiah, and Josiah, their combined reign was about three hundred years. There were no good kings in Israel (Samaria). That may be a reason that the ten northern ten tribes (Israel) fell about 140 years before Judah was conquered by Babylon.

2Ch 27:3-5 He built the Upper Gate of the house of the LORD, and he built extensively on the wall of Ophel. [4] Moreover he built cities in the mountains of Judah, and in the forests he built fortresses and towers. [5] He also fought with the king of the Ammonites and defeated them. And the people of Ammon

gave him in that year one hundred talents of silver, ten thousand kors of wheat, and ten thousand of barley. The people of Ammon paid this to him in the second and third years also.

- **Jotham was very much into national defense and security** at that time and strengthened that within the land. **2Ch 27:6** So Jotham became mighty, because he prepared his ways before the LORD his God.

- **He prepared or established his ways!** Now the secret of success again! He became mighty because he prepared his ways before the LORD our God! As long as he sought the LORD, God made his ways to prosper. He sought the LORD, he had established his ways before the LORD, and so he was mighty.

- **This is a man who loved God!** He became mighty because he prepared his heart, his life before the LORD! That is why his mightiness came. He was not seeking might! He was seeking to prepare his life before the LORD, in that order. Because he did that, he flourished! He grew mightily! God blessed him! Too many today are doing the opposite. They prepare their way before the LORD because they want to get mighty; because they want to be raised up, because they want the attention, they want the success.

- **(Ezr 7:10)** For Ezra had prepared his heart to seek the Law of the LORD, and to do it, and to teach statutes and ordinances in Israel. (2Ch 19:3) Nevertheless good things are found in you (Jehoshaphat), in that you have removed the wooden images from the land, and have prepared your heart to seek God."

- **Jotham became mighty because he had prepared or established his ways before the LORD, his God. The same is true for us! Not that we want to become mighty, but to be used mightily! Jotham, Ezra and Jehoshaphat are good examples of the importance and significance of one preparing his ways before the LORD his God. Because of that, God made and used them in a mighty way! Have you, have I, prepared our hearts to seek God?**

2Ch 27:7-9 Now the rest of the acts of Jotham, and all his wars and his ways, indeed they are written in the book of the kings of Israel and Judah. [8] He was twenty-five years old when he became king, and he reigned sixteen years in Jerusalem. [9] So Jotham rested with his fathers, and they buried him in the City of David. Then Ahaz his son reigned in his place.

- **We are not told very much of the reign of Jotham.** He did not reign very long, only for sixteen years, which means he died at the age of forty-one. He was still a young man when he died. He had a son, Ahaz, who reigned in his place. Under Ahaz, Judah literally plunges to what was up to that point an all-time low. Ahaz was a terrible king!

Ahaz Reigns in Judah

2Ch 28:1 Ahaz was twenty years old when he became king, and he reigned sixteen years in Jerusalem; and he did not do what was right in the sight of the LORD, as his father David had done.

- **Look out! Trouble is on the way. Ahaz is a bad king.** He is not doing that which is right before the LORD! You know that the story of his reign is going to be disaster, because this is the most important factor of any man's life, which is his relationship to God! Now it tells us of the evil that he did.

2Ch 28:2 For he walked in the ways of the kings of Israel, and made molded images for the Baals.

- **After 60 to 70 years of righteous rule in Jerusalem, of good, godly leadership, Ahaz just goes completely in the other direction!** We cannot blame our culture or our society. Everybody has a decision to make as to obedience!

2Ch 28:3 He burned incense in the Valley of the Son of Hinnom, and burned his children in the fire, according to the abominations of the nations whom the LORD had cast out before the children of Israel.

- **Ahaz followed the pagan practice of offering his children as live sacrifices unto the pagan gods.** They would heat up these little iron, and stone gods in the fire until they were glowing red. Then they placed their babies in the outstretched arms and sacrificed their babies to these pagan deities. We cringe at that. The taking of your baby and placing it in the outstretched arms of a molten hot little iron god and allowing it to be burned to death. Yet, our nation has made such a strong move in this direction through abortion!
- **Why do we need to pray?** We need to be repenting, asking God for forgiveness, asking God for moving of His spirit. Think of our nation. Billy Graham said, If God does not judge America, you owe Sodom and Gomorrah an apology. Since 1973, over 60 million babies have been aborted in the United States. The most dangerous place for an American is in his mother's womb. All the casualties of all the wars we have ever fought as a nation, total about 1.2 million casualties. We have been aborting that number each year for the past 60 years! God will not turn away His judgment from that.

2Ch 28:4 And he sacrificed and burned incense on the high places, on the hills, and under every green tree.

- “Righteousness exalts a nation, sin is a reproach to any people,” and the nation’s strength, lies in its moral strength, not in its physical strength. When morally, a nation goes downhill, it is weak.
- Ahaz went further, literally filling the whole land of Israel with idolatry, worshipping Baal. They would always worship on the mountaintops, the highest point of the land. They like to worship under evergreen trees, and we are talking about absolutely gross sexual immorality associated with these practices. But because the trees were evergreen, they viewed those as a symbol of fertility so they would engage in these fertility rights and sexual immorality with the idea that somehow it would make their crops or their family more fertile.

Judah Defeated

2Ch 28:5 Therefore the LORD his God delivered him into the hand of the king of Syria. They defeated him, and carried away a great multitude of them as captives, and brought them to Damascus. Then he was also delivered into the hand of the king of Israel, who defeated him with a great slaughter.

- Ahaz makes the northern kingdom Israel as heroes, and then this is what the devil does. He stabs you in the back the first chance he gets. The king of Israel then defeated him with a great slaughter.

2Ch 28:6 For Pekah (king of Israel) the son of Remaliah killed one hundred and twenty thousand in Judah in one day, all valiant men, because they had forsaken the LORD God of their fathers.

- Now that is a terrible battle. Those are numbers that you just can hardly get in your mind. We are not even talking about wounded. 120,000 killed in one day all valiant men because they had forsaken the LORD God of their fathers! Forsaken of God, they become an easy prey to their enemies. They have no defense, for God was their defense, and that has now been removed.

2Ch 28:7-8 Zichri, a mighty man of Ephraim, killed Maaseiah the king's son, Azrikam the officer over the house, and Elkanah who was second to the king. [8] And the children of Israel carried away captive of their brethren two hundred thousand women, sons, and daughters; and they also took away much spoil from them, and brought the spoil to Samaria.

- Under the law of Moses, the children of Israel were not to take other Israelites as slaves. Here, the northern kingdom, conquered over the southern kingdom and carried back two hundred thousand women and children: all to slavery in the northern kingdom.

2Ch 28:9 But a prophet of the LORD was there, whose name was Oded; and he went out before the army that came to Samaria, and said to them: "Look, because the LORD God of your fathers was angry with Judah, He has delivered them into your hand; but you have killed them in a rage that reaches up to heaven.

- You were overly zealous. Your rage has come before God. You took too much vengeance yourselves!

2Ch 28:10 And now you propose to force the children of Judah and Jerusalem to be your male and female slaves; but are you not also guilty before the LORD your God?

- It is because of their sin that God gave them over into your hands, but you are exceedingly sinful yourselves! What you are doing is wrong.”

2Ch 28:11-14 Now hear me, therefore, and return the captives (set these people free), whom you have taken captive from your brethren, for the fierce wrath of the LORD is upon you." [12] Then some of the heads (civil leaders) of the children of Ephraim, Azariah the son of Johanan, Berechiah the son of Meshillemoth, Jehizkiah the son of Shallum, and Amasa the son of Hadlai, stood up against those who came from the war, [13] and said to them, "You shall not bring the captives here, for we already have offended the LORD. You intend to add to our sins and to our guilt; for our guilt is great, and there is fierce wrath against Israel." [14] So the armed men left the captives and the spoil before the leaders and all the assembly.

- They would not allow them to bring the captives from Judah into Samaria.

2Ch 28:15 Then the men who were designated by name rose up and took the captives, and from the spoil they clothed all who were naked among them, dressed them and gave them sandals, gave them food and drink, and anointed them; and they let all the feeble ones ride on donkeys. So they brought them to their brethren at Jericho, the city of palm trees. Then they returned to Samaria.

- This shows the shameful way in which they had brought the captives back. They brought them back naked, and without shoes. But now they dressed them; they gave them sandals, food, and drink; they anointed

them, putting oil and healing balm on their wounds. And they let the feeble ones ride on donkeys. They brought them to their brethren at Jericho, where they could make their way on up into Judah.

2Ch 28:16 *At the same time King Ahaz sent to the kings of Assyria to help him.*

- Ahaz would not trust in the LORD or lean upon Him! He was not even serving the LORD. But he sent to the king of Assyria to help him.

2Ch 28:17 *For again the Edomites had come, attacked Judah, and carried away captives.*

- Because of Ahaz's and Judah's wickedness, they are getting it from all directions! The Assyrians came down, Israel came down from the north, and now he is getting it from the south, Edom has come against him and carried away captives.

2Ch 28:18 *The Philistines also had invaded the cities of the lowland and of the South of Judah, and had taken Beth Shemesh, Aijalon, Gederath, Sochoh with its villages, Timnah with its villages, and Gimzo with its villages; and they dwelt there.*

- From the west the Philistines were attacking, and from the southeast, the Edomites were attacking, from the northeast, the Assyrians are attacking, from the northwest, Israel is attacking! King Ahaz is going down fast! **Notice whenever any nation (or for us personally) persists in disobedience to God, the enemies come in like a flood!**

2Ch 28:19-21 *For the LORD brought Judah low because of Ahaz king of Israel, for he had encouraged moral decline in Judah and had been continually unfaithful to the LORD. [20] Also Tiglath-Pileser king of Assyria came to him and distressed him, and did not assist him. [21] For Ahaz took part of the treasures from the house of the LORD, from the house of the king, and from the leaders, and he gave it to the king of Assyria; but he did not help him*

- Remember how in verse 16, Ahaz had sought help from Assyria, rather than turning to God! Here Ahaz had taken the treasury of the house, and hired Assyria to come as mercenaries to help him, but they did not help!

Ahaz's Idolatry

2Ch 28:22 *Now in the time of his distress King Ahaz became increasingly unfaithful to the LORD. This is that King Ahaz.*

- Ahaz would not allow God's chastening to bring him to a place of repentance. He just continued to go deeper and deeper into sin and idolatry. This was not ignorance on his part. He had a godly heritage and also had the voices of Isaiah and Micah as well.
- **This is that king Ahaz, that wretched man**, who was the scandal of the house of David and the curse and plague of his generation.

2Ch 28:23 *For he sacrificed to the gods of Damascus which had defeated him, saying, "Because the gods of the kings of Syria help them, I will sacrifice to them that they may help me." But they were the ruin of him and of all Israel.*

- (2Ki 16:10-12) Now King Ahaz went to Damascus to meet Tiglath-Pileser king of Assyria and saw an altar that was at Damascus; and King Ahaz sent to Urijah the priest the design of the altar and its pattern, according to all its workmanship. [11] Then Urijah the priest built an altar according to all that King Ahaz had sent from Damascus. So Urijah the priest made it before King Ahaz came back from Damascus. [12] And when the king came back from Damascus, the king saw the altar; he approached the altar and made offerings on it.
- So Ahaz sacrificed unto the gods of Damascus, having built this altar copied after the altar he saw in Damascus. He worshiped the gods of Damascus, which were the ruin of him and of all Israel.

2Ch 28:24-25 *So Ahaz gathered the articles of the house of God, cut in pieces the articles of the house of God, shut up the doors of the house of the LORD, and made for himself altars in every corner of Jerusalem. [25] And in every single city of Judah he made high places to burn incense to other gods, and provoked to anger the LORD God of his fathers.*

- He desecrated the house of God, cutting in pieces the vessels and articles, so that the priests might not perform the service of the temple. He shut up the doors, that the people might not attend it! This was worse than the worst of the kings before him had done!
- He made for himself altars in every corner of Jerusalem; so that they were like heaps. (Hos 12:11b) Indeed their altars shall be heaps in the furrows of the field. And in every single city of Judah, either by his power or

money, perhaps by both, he erected high places for the people to burn incense to what idols they pleased, as if on purpose to provoke the God of his fathers. A horribly wicked king, who brought distress upon the nation.

2Ch 28:26-27 Now the rest of his acts and all his ways, from first to last, indeed they are written in the book of the kings of Judah and Israel. [27] So Ahaz rested with his fathers, and they buried him in the city, in Jerusalem; but they did not bring him into the tombs of the kings of Israel. Then Hezekiah his son reigned in his place.

- Ahaz surrendered himself to idolatry with the ignorance of a wicked pagan and a ruthless defiance of God that ruined him and his nation. He was justly dishonored in his burial.
- The only thing good that Ahaz did was to produce Hezekiah. Because Hezekiah was a good king.
- ***There is much for us to absorb and to learn from these kings, but the heart of the matter is this: if you put God first in your life, if you do that which is right in the sight of the LORD, you will have a successful life. God will be with you, God will bless you, God will take care of you. If you forsake the LORD, living after your own flesh, your own pleasure, then you are courting disaster for your life. You are going to end up in bondage, in captivity to your own flesh.***
- So the bottom line is, seek the LORD, with all your heart. Serve the LORD, put Him first in your life, that you might be blessed of God, with His hand of blessing upon you. May we always seek the LORD, putting Him first!

SUMMARY:

- ***2Ch 26:5 Uzziah was an excellent illustration of what Jesus says to each of us! He sought the LORD; God made him prosper! (Mat 6:33) But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.***
- ***2Ch 26:17 Is there any part of my ministry that I am trying to fulfill, that the Lord has not called me to? Lord, help me to spend my time and effort only on those things that You have called me to do, especially when new areas of ministry opportunities arise.***
- ***2Ch 26:18 What is my response to being rebuked and corrected? Is there a tendency to get angry and resist correction like Saul and Uzziah did?***
- ***2Ch 27:6 Jotham became mighty because he had prepared or established his ways before the LORD, his God. The same is true for us! Not that we want to become mighty, but to be used mightily! Jotham, Ezra and Jehoshaphat are good examples of the importance and significance of one preparing his ways before the LORD his God. Because of that, God made and used them in a mighty way! Have you, have I, prepared our hearts to seek God?***
- ***2Ch 28:27 There is much for us to absorb and to learn from these kings, but the heart of the matter is this: if you put God first in your life, if you do that which is right in the sight of the LORD, you will have a successful life. God will be with you, God will bless you, God will take care of you. If you forsake the LORD, living after your own flesh, your own pleasure, then you are courting disaster for your life. You are going to end up in bondage, in captivity to your own flesh.***

2Ch 26:16 But when he (Uzziah) was strong his heart was lifted up, to his destruction, for he transgressed against the LORD his God by entering the temple of the LORD to burn incense on the altar of incense.

HUMBLE THYSELF IN THE SIGHT OF THE LORD – Maranatha Music (3:01:3:02)

Humble Thyself In the Sight of the Lord; Humble Thyself In the Sight of the Lord;

And He shall Lift You Up, Higher and Higher And He shall Lift You Up (3x)

Up into Heaven And He shall Lift You Up; And He shall Lift You Up, Higher and Higher

And He shall Lift You Up, Up into Heaven And He shall Lift You Up

And He shall Lift You Up (8X)

CLOSING PRAYER

NEXT WEEK: Study 2 Chronicles, Chapters 29-30