

The 3 Kings

2 CHRONICLES 24-26



Joash. Amaziah. Uzziah.



JOASH

2 Chronicles 24:1-4

Joash was seven years old when he began to reign, and he reigned forty years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Zibiah of Beersheba. And Joash did what was right in the eyes of the Lord all the days of Jehoiada the priest.

2 Chronicles 24:1-4

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2 Chronicles 24:4-6
'But the Levites did not act quickly.'

2 Chronicles: 24:8-14
'The King and Jehoiada'

2 Chronicles: 24:16
Jehoiada buried amongst the kings.

2 Chronicles 24:17-18

Now after the death of Jehoiada the princes of Judah came and paid homage to the king. Then the king listened to them. And they abandoned the house of the Lord, the God of their fathers, and served the Asherim and the idols.

ישָחָה (šā·ḥā(h))

Homage: Take a bowing stance, in a position of submission, as you would toward a king.

Joash is now enslaved by homage, the praise of man.



AMAZIAH

2 Chronicles 25:1-3

Amaziah was twenty-five years old when he began to reign, and he reigned twenty-nine years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Jehoaddan of Jerusalem. And he did what was right in the eyes of the Lord, yet not with a whole heart. And as soon as the royal power was firmly his, he killed his servants who had struck down the king his father.

2 Chronicles 25:1-3

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2 Chronicles 25:5-13

- Amaziah's obedience to the instruction of the LORD.
- Amaziah had faith in God.

2 Chronicles 25:14-16

Amaziah turns to idols

The halfhearted heart is prone to idolatry



Half-heartedness



UZZIAH

2 Chronicles 26:1-5

And all the people of Judah took Uzziah, who was sixteen years old, and made him king instead of his father Amaziah. He built Eloth and restored it to Judah, after the king slept with his fathers. Uzziah was sixteen years old when he began to reign, and he reigned fifty-two years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Jecoliah of Jerusalem. And he did what was right in the eyes of the Lord, according to all that his father Amaziah had done. 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.

Uzziah's Achievements (2 Chronicles 26:6-15)

- Defeats the Philistines, destroyed the walls of Gath, Jabneh, Ashdod
- Built cities amongst the Philistines.
- Ammonites gave tribute to Uzziah.
- Fame extends to the border of Egypt.
- Built towers in Jerusalem and fortified them.
- Built towers in the wilderness and cisterns for his livestock.
- Strong and organised army with all the equipment necessary.
- Elite army of 307,500 soldiers.
- Built engines of war on the towers.

2 Chronicles 26:15

And his fame spread far, for he was marvelously helped, till he was strong.

2 Chronicles 26:16

But when he was strong, he grew proud, to his destruction. For he was unfaithful to the Lord his God and entered the temple of the Lord to burn incense on the altar of incense.



HUBRIS



Joash: Homage Amaziah: Half-heartedness Uzziah: Hubris



Awareness leads to change. Reflection leads to awareness. Silence leads to reflection.

- 1. How have I been feeling? What are the thoughts that have occupied my mind?
- 2. What can I give thanks to God for?
- 3. How has the Scripture come alive to me this week?
- 4. Search me God, is there something that You would like to address?
- 5. Has my affection for God grown, stayed the same or dwindled? Why?