Sermon Summary February 11

The Lord is My Strength

2 Kings 15:1-7; 2 Chronicles 26

The Name and Reign of Uzziah

Uzziah is known by two names. In 2 Kings 15 he is known as Azariah which means, "Helped by God." The name Uzziah means, "The Lord is my Strength." These names are fitting for Uzziah because this is exactly the way that Uzziah's kingdom was built. Uzziah reigned for 52 years and during those years, Judah experienced peace and prosperity that it had not known since the days of Solomon.

The Source of Uzziah's Strength

Uzziah's fame spread far because "he was marvelously helped until he was strong" and God was the one that caused him to prosper. We must remember that God is sovereign over all kings and kingdoms. It is God that ultimately decides the fate of the nations. We must also be mindful of the fact that all good things come from the Lord (James 1:17). God's common grace is given to all people. Uzziah's very name was to serve as an ongoing reminder that God was the one that was building up the kingdom of Judah and it was God alone that was the giver of all good things.

The Source of Uzziah's Fall

Uzziah fell into a trap that is far too common for people with power. His pride caused him to act corruptly and be unfaithful to the Lord. We do not need to be the king or queen of a great nation to fall victim to a pride-filled heart. Everything that we need to be prideful already exists inside of us. The greatest threat to our spiritual lives is the sin that is inside of us. Uzziah's problem was that he did not remain true to his name. The Lord no longer was his strength and while he may have possessed real zeal for the Lord, that zeal was misguided. We must not be afraid to hold our leaders to a standard of righteousness

A View of Eternity (Isaiah 6)

For 52 years, Judah was under the reign of Uzziah. What a shock it must have been to many when he passed away! Isaiah has a vision in Isaiah 6 that takes place during the year that Uzziah died and in this vision he sees the Lord seated upon His throne. Here was the true King! This is the King that will reign forever that we must worship.