

II Chronicles 26-28 –8 January 2026

“Simply Or Bravely, We Serve God”

Introduction

*Today we look at the 9th-11th kings of Judah

*Uzziah, Jotham, and Ahaz

*In the 345-year divided kingdom, we cross halfway

*We’re looking at the years 767 BC - 716 BC

*During the end of our time today is when the Northern Kingdom of Israel is ended for good

*Looking these three kings today allow us a chance to see what they did (or didn’t do) to honor God with their time and authority

Today, we’ll see 3 ways that we can honor and please God with our time and authority

#1 – Love What God Loves (Uzziah) (Chap 26)

Read Vs 26:1-5

1. Uzziah was 16 when father died in battle
 - a. The people took and made him king
 - b. Good choice since he's a son of David & Amaziah
2. 2nd longest reign of any king (Manasseh 55 yrs)
3. Zechariah isn't the one of the book by his name
4. We get this expression often...
 - a. 'As long as he sought God, he prospered'

Read Vs 6-15

1. To love what God loves – will bring success
 - a. He followed God's plan to take the land (vs 6)
 - b. He loved God's promise of giving the land (vs 10)
2. While waiting for the 3rd promise (Messiah) he worked with the 1st 2 promises (People and land)

Read Vs 16

1. Pride will make you unsatisfied
 - a. His glorious role as king was no longer enough
 - b. Like Korah in the wilderness – the priesthood wasn't enough (Num 16:8-9)
2. We mistakenly give credit for success to self, not God

Read Vs 17-21

1. Speaking truth to power – let God bring result
2. The priests went in a persuasive way (80 men)
3. Uzziah had God's general revelation, and now is given a direct revelation, but rebels against both

Read Vs 22-23

1. The authors Amos and Zechariah both talk of a major earthquake during the reign of Uzziah
2. A man that did many great things, whose life is marred and ends on a bitter note

#2 – Live W/ Godly Simplicity (Jotham) (Chap 27)

Read Vs 27:1-2

1. Jotham sets out to serve the Lord in truth
2. II Kings tells us the people continued to burn incense and sacrifice to false gods

Read Vs 3-6

1. In repairing the Temple, he's repairing the social & spiritual damage between priests & king
2. "Established [or prepared] his ways before the Lord" - He made firm his choice to follow the Lord's ways
 - a. There is always intentionality when someone goes the way God wants them to go
 - b. Even in defending his border w/ the Ammonites, he's intentionally serving God

Read Vs 7-9

1. Are you bored by Jotham's life?

2. Jothan is the only king that there's hardly a negative word mentioned of him at all
3. This is what God wants from us – godly simplicity
 - a. Don't be afraid to act in bold faith – but what we do put our hand to, do it with godly simplicity

#3 – Be Ready To Take Brave, Strong Action (Oded during Ahaz's reign) (Chap 28)

Read Vs 28:1-4

1. Ahaz reigned during the last 2 kings of Israel Hosea and endured even when Israel was taken by Assyria
2. Ahaz chose wickedness – idolatry & abortion
3. Abortion is always wrong, but Judah was looking for the Messiah and here he is aborting children that are eligible to be Messiah

Read Vs 5-8

1. B/c of his wickedness, God allows this trouble
2. Israel and Syria were aligned against Assyria, so they invade Judah
3. Judah has been plundered b/c of their wickedness before, but this time the plunder could be permanent
 - a. Permanent in the sense that it's taken by Israel and then all Israel will be taken by Assyria never to return
 - b. In this sense, much of Israel *and* Judah could be wiped out when Assyria conquers Israel in 722 BC

Read Vs 9-15

1. The prophet Oded went into enemy territory, not to request, but to demand in the name of God, the return of the Judaic captives
2. Oded preaches that the wrath of God will come on them for this disobedience - & Israel listens

3. Oded's bravery and obedience got more than 200,000 returned from sure death and loss of all inheritance

Read Vs 16-21

1. Classic sin against God
 - a. Trusting men & not turning to God in distress
2. Assyrian king is a perfect example of fickle man
 - a. They'll help, but only for their own advantage

Read Vs 22-27

1. So Ahaz doesn't just turn to other men but to other false god to help, but it doesn't work
 - a. Look at his bad logic – the Syrian gods helped them, maybe they can help me
 - b. No! The one true God allowed Syria to have some victory
2. Ahaz's false worship wasn't just his – he exported false worship all over Judah
 - a. He helped others fall away from the Lord, wow!

Conclusion

So, what is the Lord asking you to learn from these situations? The kings used their position of influence, and the prophet Oded chose to step out in faith

1. **Love What God Loves like Uzziah**
 - a. Look and God's Word and chose to do it!
2. **Live W/ Godly Simplicity like Jotham**
 - a. Live at peace with all men if the possibility is there
3. **Be Ready To Take Brave, Strong Action like Oded**
 - a. We ultimately don't get to choose whether the situations of our live will be peaceful or cause conflict
 - b. Choose truth whether it is easy or brings conflict!

Next week – The life of Hezekiah