

Kings: The Corrupt Generation King Ahaz Pastor Cody Winkler

Main Text

2 Kings 28:1-4 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. For he walked in the ways of the kings of Israel and made molded images for the Baals. 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. And he sacrificed and burned incense on the high places, on the hills, and under every green tree.

Ahaz: Corruption and Compromise

• Corruption Over Time

- Ahaz's reign is marked by idolatry, child sacrifice, and tearing down the house of God.
- **Question:** What stands out to you most about Ahaz's choices, and why?
- Question: How do small compromises open the door to bigger acts of disobedience?

• Ignoring God's Voice

- Ahaz chooses foreign gods over the Lord, even after seeing those gods fail others.
- Question: Why do people often turn to destructive solutions even when they know they don't work?
- Question: What are examples today of trusting in "gods of Damascus" instead of God?

Ahaz: Affecting the Next Generation

• Generational Consequences

- "The sins one generation ignores become the methods of behaviors in the next generation."
- **Question:** Can you think of habits, values, or faith practices passed down in your family—both good and bad?
- Question: How can we pass on an *active* faith, not just tradition or routine, to the next generation?