

“Historical Books Of The Bible”
2 Kings 14-15
Wednesday February 15, 2017

2 Kings 14:1-6

2 Kings 1-17 – Israel’s Captivity: These chapters chronicle Israel’s crash course for Assyrian Captivity. **2 Kings 16-17** – Israel is taken into Captivity by the Assyrians.

We will study 2 Kings 14-15 which contain 9 Kings of the North and South.

1. 2 Kings 14:1-20 – Amaziah, A Presumptuous King: 2 Kings 14:1

“Amaziah the son of Joash king of Judah became king.” – Amaziah was the ninth king of Judah and the son of Joash (Jehoash).

2 Kings 14:2

Verses 3-7 – A Good Beginning: 2 Kings 14:3 – Amaziah made an excellent beginning, but he later abandoned the Lord and was assassinated, 2 Kings 14:17-20.

2 Kings 14:4 – Not like David, for David would have removed the high places.

2 Kings 14:5 – “he killed his servants who had slain the king his father.” – He saw to it that the men were executed who had murdered his father, 2 Kings 12:21.

2 Kings 14:6 – He obeyed Deuteronomy 24:16.

2 Kings 14:7 – Amaziah decided to attack Edom and regain territory that had been lost, 2 Kings 8:20-22.

Amaziah’s Unbelief: 2 Chronicles 25:5-13 – Amaziah took a census and found he had 300,000 men, but instead of trusting the Lord to use these men, he hired 100,000 mercenaries from Israel to increase his forces.

“Joktheel to this day” – which means “God destroys.”

Verses 8-16 – Prideful Fall: 2 Kings 14:8-10.

Proverbs 18:12

2 Kings 14:11 – “faced each other at Beth-shemesh,” – It was 15 miles west from Jerusalem.

2 Kings 14:12-13 – Destroyed 600 feet of the wall of Jerusalem, leaving the city vulnerable to future attacks; “captured Amaziah king of Judah,”

2 Kings 14:14 – Not much left; had been looted 10 years back,
2 Kings 12:18.

2 Kings 14:15

Proverbs 16:18 – “Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.”

Amaziah took back to Judah the gods of the defeated enemy,
2 Chronicles 25:14-16.

2 Kings 14:16

Verses 17-22 – Tension In Judah: 2 Kings 14:17-22

2. 2 Kings 14:23-29 – Jeroboam, A Prosperous King:

2 Kings 14:23-25 – Restored Israel’s borders to David and Solomon’s time.

2 Kings 14:26-28

Judgment did come in 722 B.C., when the Assyrians invaded Israel, deported many of the Jewish people, and imported Gentiles from other conquered nations to mix with the Israelites. This policy eventually produced a mixed race, part Jew and part Gentile, as well as a hybrid religion with its own temple and priesthood on Mount Gerizim.

2 Kings 14:29

3. 2 Kings 15:1-7 – Uzziah (Azariah), An Illustrious King:

2 Kings 15:1 – “Azariah,” – which means “Jehovah has helped.”

2 Kings 15:2 – Manasseh reigned for 55 years, 2 Kings 21:1;
2 Chronicles 33:1.

“Uzziah,” – which means “Jehovah is strength.”

2 Kings 15:3 – Uzziah did much good, 2 Chronicles 26:2, 6-15.

2 Kings 15:4

Verse 5 – Uzziah’s Arrogance: 2 Kings 15:5 – “The LORD struck the king, so that he was a leper to the day of his death.” 2 Chronicles 26:16-23

2 Chronicles 26:19 – The Hebrew word translated “angry” implies “raging like a storm.”

The law demanded that those who intruded into the holy temple were to be put to death (Numbers 18:7), but God graciously spared the king’s life and gave him leprosy, a “living death.”

2 Kings 15:6-7

He had a wonderful beginning but a tragic ending, and this is a warning to us that we be on guard and pray that the Lord will help us to end well.

2 Kings 15:8-31 – Five Notorious Kings:

4. 2 Kings 15:8-12 – Zechariah: 2 Kings 15:8:

2 Kings 15:9-12

Zechariah was the great-great-grandson of Jehu and therefore the last of that dynasty. God promised Jehu that his descendants would occupy the throne of Israel for four generations (2 Kings 10:30), and that promise was fulfilled.

5. 2 Kings 15:13-16 – Shallum: 2 Kings 15:13-14:

Proverbs 26:27

2 Kings 15:15-16

“because they did not open to him; therefore he struck it and ripped up all its women who were with child.” – He was a brutal man who followed the Syrian custom of ripping up pregnant women (2 Kings 8:12), something that Hosea the Prophet warned would happen, Hosea 13:16.

6. 2 Kings 15:17-22 – Menahem: 2 Kings 15:17-20:

“from each man fifty shekels of silver (1 ¼ pounds) to pay the king of Assyria.”

2 Kings 15:21-22

7. 2 Kings 15:23-26 – Pekahiah: 2 Kings 15:23-25:

The fact that Pekah was assisted by fifty men from Gilead suggests that he was in charge of the military forces east of the Jordan River.

2 Kings 15:26

8. 2 Kings 15:27-31 – Pekah: 2 Kings 15:27:

Thanks to the protection of his army, Pekah was able to reign twenty years. When a military man takes over, it's very difficult to get rid of him.

2 Kings 15:28-31

9. 2 Kings 15:32-38 – Virtuous King Jotham: 2 Kings 15:32-33:

Jotham, son of Uzziah, began to reign when he was twenty-five years old and ruled for sixteen years, 2 Chronicles 27:1. He was co-ruler with his father after Uzziah was smitten with leprosy for invading the temple precincts.

2 Kings 15:34-37

2 Chronicles 27:5-6

2 Kings 15:38

Application:

1. Warren Wiersbe said, "It's not by imitating the world and uniting with the world, but by being different from the world that we manifest the power and grace of God and accomplish His will."
2. Amaziah Was Lifted Up In Pride. Pride Blinds The Mind, Distorts The Vision, And So Inflates The Ego That The Person Can't Tell Truth From Fiction.
3. How Differently King David Would Have Responded To The Assyrians. David Would Have Trusted God, Fought The Assyrians, And Defeated Them; But Menahem's Policy Was To Compromise And Conciliate.
4. Uzziah Had A Good Beginning, But This Is No Guarantee Of A Successful Ending, And The Sin Of Unholy Ambition Has Ruined More Than One Servant Of The Lord.