

AMAZIAH. 2 CHN. 25 (1 KN. 14). 01/21/24. #27.

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Amaziah was twenty-five years old when he became king, and he reigned twenty-nine years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Jehoaddan of Jerusalem. *And he did what was right in the sight of the LORD, but not with a loyal heart. *Now it happened, as soon as the kingdom was established for him, that he executed his servants who had murdered his father the king. *However he did not execute their children, but did as it is written in the Law in the Book of Moses, where the LORD commanded, saying, "The fathers shall not be put to death for their children, nor shall the children be put to death for their fathers; but a person shall die for his own sin." *Moreover Amaziah gathered ... three hundred thousand choice men, able to go to war, who could handle spear and shield. *He also hired one hundred thousand mighty men of valor from Israel for one hundred talents of silver. *But a man of God came to him, saying, "O king, do not let the army of Israel go with you, for the LORD is not with Israel—not with any of the children of Ephraim. *But if you go, be gone! Be strong in battle! Even so, God shall make you fall before the enemy; for God has power to help and to overthrow." *Then Amaziah said to the man of God, "But what shall we do about the hundred talents which I have given to the troops of Israel?" And the man of God answered, "The LORD is able to give you much more than this." *So Amaziah discharged the troops that had come to him from Ephraim, to go back home... *Then Amaziah ... went to the Valley of Salt and killed ten thousand of the people of Seir. *Also ... Judah took ... ten thousand alive... and cast them down from the top of the rock... *But as for the soldiers of the army which Amaziah had discharged...they raided the cities of Judah from Samaria to Beth Horon, killed three thousand in them, and took much spoil. *Now it was so, after Amaziah came from the slaughter of the Edomites, that he brought the gods of the people of Seir, set them up to be his gods... *Therefore the anger of the LORD was aroused against Amaziah, and He sent him a prophet who said to him, "Why have you sought the gods of the people, which could not rescue their own people from your hand?" *So it was, as he talked with him, that the king said to him, "Have we made you the king's counselor? Cease! Why should you be killed?" Then the prophet ceased, and said, "I know that God has determined to destroy you, because you have done this and have not heeded my advice." *Now Amaziah king of Judah asked advice and sent to Joash the son of Jehoahaz, the son of Jehu, king of Israel, saying, "Come, let us face one another in battle." *And Joash king of Israel sent to Amaziah king of Judah, saying, "The thistle that was in Lebanon sent to the cedar that was in Lebanon, saying, 'Give your daughter to my son as wife'; and a wild beast that was in Lebanon passed by and trampled the thistle. *Indeed you say that you have defeated the Edomites, and your heart is lifted up to boast. Stay at home now; why should you meddle with trouble, that you should fall—you and Judah with you?" *But Amaziah would not heed, for it came from God, that He might give them into the hand of their enemies, because they sought the gods of Edom. *So Joash king of Israel went out; and he and Amaziah king of Judah faced one another at Beth Shemesh, which belongs to Judah. *And Judah was defeated by Israel, and every man fled to his tent. *Then Joash the king of Israel captured Amaziah king of Judah, the son of Joash, the son of Jehoahaz, at Beth Shemesh; and he brought him to Jerusalem, and broke down the wall of Jerusalem from the Gate of Ephraim to the Corner Gate—four hundred cubits. *And he took all the gold and silver, all the articles that were found in the house of God with Obed-Edom, the treasures of the king's house, and hostages, and returned to Samaria. *Amaziah the son of Joash, king of Judah, lived fifteen years after the death of Joash the son of Jehoahaz, king of Israel...
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1. A mixed bag

- a. Amaziah like his father, Joash, served the Lord in part
 - a1. He did not remove the High Places where Judah burned incense to idols
 - a2. Later he brings back idols from Edom to worship
- b. God wants us to worship Him with all our heart, mind, and soul (Mt. 22:27-30)
 - a1. Jam. 1 – a double-minded man is unstable in all his ways
 - a2. 1 Kn. 18 choose you this day whom you will serve

2. War with Edom

- a. Amaziah went to war Edom
 - a1. Gathered 300,000 troops
 - a2. Paid 100 talents of silver (3 ½ tons) for 100,000 mercenary Israelite troops
- b. A prophet tells Amaziah that God would not bless him if Israel troops go with him

- a1. Israel was in rebellion
 - a2. Amaziah was concerned about the \$ he spent
 - a3. God could give him much more than he loses
- c. Amaziah sent the Israelite troops home
 - a1. The troops were greatly angered since they were left out of the spoils
 - a2. The troops raided Judean villages, killing 3,000
 - d. Amaziah defeats Edom, killing 10,000 & casting another 10,000 prisoners over a cliff
 - e. Amaziah brings back idols from Edom & set them up to worship before them
 - a1. A prophet warns Amaziah that if these idols could not save Edom, why would he want to serve them?
 - a2. Amaziah threatened the prophet with death
 - a3. The prophet pronounces judgment on Am.

3. Judgment from the North

- a. Feeling powerful & seeking revenge for the raids, Amaziah challenges Jehoash to battle
 - a1. Jehoash warns Amaziah to stay home & glory in his victory over Edom
 - a2. Jehoash compares Amaziah to a thistle who envisions himself as on the level as a cedar
 - b1. The thistle is trampled by a wild beast
 - b2. Jehoash is both the cedar & wild beast that will trample Amaziah
- b. Amaziah does not listen
 - a1. Amaziah wants to revenge the raids on Judah by the Israelite mercenaries
 - a2. This was of the Lord for Amaziah's idolatry
- c. Am. meets Jehoash in battle
 - a1. In the ensuing battle, Judah is defeated
 - a2. Amaziah is taken captive at Beth-shemesh (15 miles SW of Jerusalem)
 - a3. Jehoash breaks down the north wall of Jerusalem & takes all the wealth of the temple & palace
- d. Eventually, Amaziah must flee Jerusalem and is assassinated at Lachish (30 mi. SW of Jerusalem)
- e. Had Amaziah served the Lord, he could have had a long prosperous reign