

2 Kings 15

King James Version (KJV)

15 In the twenty and seventh year of Jeroboam king of Israel began Azariah son of Amaziah king of Judah to reign.

²Sixteen years old was he when he began to reign, and he reigned two and fifty years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Jecholiah of Jerusalem. (52 years – a very long reign. The only king that reigned longer was Manasseh; who reigned 55 years)

³And he did that which was right in the sight of the LORD, according to all that his father Amaziah had done; (in his early years; also saying he did as well as his father Amaziah, isn't saying much. At least he stopped the worship of Edom's idols and returned worship to Yahoveh)

⁴Save that the high places were not removed: the people sacrificed and burnt incense still on the high places.

NOTE: (In those days, "engines" or catapults were invented. These changed the landscape dramatically, as far as war and defenses were concerned) see 2Chronicles-26:5

⁵And the LORD smote the king, so that he was a leper unto the day of his death, and dwelt in a several house. And Jotham the king's son was over the house, judging the people of the land. (Jotham ruled instead of his father, because of Azariah's leprosy)

2Chronicles-26:18 (Azariah tried to also become a priest. He offered incense to God in the temple. This was forbidden to all but the priests. His ego got the best of him. God struck him with leprosy for it)

⁶And the rest of the acts of Azariah, and all that he did, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah?
2Chronicles-26:16-on

⁷So Azariah slept with his fathers; and they buried him with his fathers in the city of David: and Jotham his son reigned in his stead. (They buried him in a field of burial, because of his leprosy)

(This is the time period where Isaiah began to prophecy about the coming captivity of Israel under the Assyrians)

⁸In the thirty and eighth year of Azariah king of Judah did Zachariah the son of Jeroboam reign over Israel in Samaria six months. (Israel has about 62 years left before they go into captivity to the Assyrians. 5 of the next 6 kings will be murdered by their "successors". Israel was in total moral decay by then)

⁹And he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD, as his fathers had done: he departed not from the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who made Israel to sin. (Israel just didn't get it – just like the US government, today)

¹⁰And Shallum the son of Jabesh conspired against him, and smote him before the people, and slew him, and reigned in his stead. (Gaining power through murder)

¹¹And the rest of the acts of Zachariah, behold, they are written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel. (Zachariah was the 4th and final generation of Jehu's progeny)

¹²This was the word of the LORD which he spake unto Jehu, saying, Thy sons shall sit on the throne of Israel unto the fourth generation. And so it came to pass. (God's Word always comes to pass)

¹³Shallum the son of Jabesh began to reign in the nine and thirtieth year of Uzziah king of Judah; and he reigned a full month in Samaria. (Uzziah - aka Azariah – the same guy)

¹⁴For Menahem the son of Gadi went up from Tirzah, and came to Samaria, and smote Shallum the son of Jabesh in Samaria, and slew him, and reigned in his stead. (According to Jeseophus, a historian - Menahem was the commanding general of Israel's army. This was a military coup d'etat)

¹⁵And the rest of the acts of Shallum, and his conspiracy which he made, behold, they are written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel.

¹⁶Then Menahem smote Tiphseh, and all that were therein, and the coasts thereof from Tirzah: because they opened not to him, therefore he smote it; and all the women therein that were with child he ripped up. (The people of Tiphseh had rebelled against Menahem's coup. Tiphseh was on the Euphrates River at the Eastern end of what was once Israel, under David and Solomon) 1Kings-4:24

¹⁷ In the nine and thirtieth year of Azariah king of Judah began Menahem the son of Gadi to reign over Israel, and reigned ten years in Samaria.

¹⁸ And he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD: he departed not all his days from the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who made Israel to sin. (Golden calf worship)

¹⁹ And Pul the king of Assyria came against the land: and Menahem gave Pul a thousand talents of silver, that his hand might be with him to confirm the kingdom in his hand. (He bribed the Assyrians to go away; and then taxed the people to pay the bribe. You can't buy peace. The Assyrians would later be back for more)

²⁰ And Menahem exacted the money of Israel, even of all the mighty men of wealth, of each man fifty shekels of silver, to give to the king of Assyria. So the king of Assyria turned back, and stayed not there in the land. (He made the people pay tribute to Assyria)

²¹ And the rest of the acts of Menahem, and all that he did, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel?

²² And Menahem slept with his fathers; and Pekahiah his son reigned in his stead. (Pekahiah = Yah has observed)

(Yes, God was observing the idolatry and perversion of Israel. By now, God must have been totally disgusted with that was going on there)

²³ In the fiftieth year of Azariah king of Judah Pekahiah the son of Menahem began to reign over Israel in Samaria, and reigned two years. (Israel was a lawless land by then. Rule was established by murdering the predecessor)

²⁴ And he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD: he departed not from the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who made Israel to sin.

²⁵ But Pekah the son of Remaliah, a captain of his, conspired against him, and smote him in Samaria, in the palace of the king's house, with Argob and Arieah, and with him fifty men of the Gileadites: and he killed him, and reigned in his room. (Pekah killed Pekahiah, Argob, Arieah. The 50 guards probably joined Pekah in his coup. Israel was in total disarray and was being ruled by one murderer after another)

²⁶ And the rest of the acts of Pekahiah, and all that he did, behold, they are written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel.

²⁷ In the two and fiftieth year of Azariah king of Judah Pekah the son of Remaliah began to reign over Israel in Samaria, and reigned twenty years. (Pekah is also written in Isaiah-7:4) (This was the last year of Azariah's rule in Judah)

²⁸ And he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD: he departed not from the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who made Israel to sin. (Golden calf worship)

²⁹ In the days of Pekah king of Israel came Tiglathpileser king of Assyria, and took Ijon, and Abelbethmaachah, and Janoah, and Kedesh, and Hazor, and Gilead, and Galilee, all the land of Naphtali, and carried them captive to Assyria. (This was the beginning of the fall of Israel to Assyria) Isaiah-9:1-2

³⁰ And Hoshea the son of Elah made a conspiracy against Pekah the son of Remaliah, and smote him, and slew him, and reigned in his stead, in the twentieth year of Jotham the son of Uzziah. (Hoshea was the last king of Israel) (Hoshea = deliverer; he delivered Israel into the hands of the Assyrians)

³¹ And the rest of the acts of Pekah, and all that he did, behold, they are written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel.

(Back to Judah)

³² In the second year of Pekah the son of Remaliah king of Israel began Jotham the son of Uzziah king of Judah to reign. (Uzziah – the leper king Azariah. They are the same name in Hebrew)

³³ Five and twenty years old was he when he began to reign, and he reigned sixteen years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Jerusha, the daughter of Zadok.

³⁴ And he did that which was right in the sight of the LORD: he did according to all that his father Uzziah had done. 2Chronicles-27:2 (Finally a good king in Judah)

³⁵ Howbeit the high places were not removed: the people sacrificed and burned incense still in the high places. He built the higher gate of the

house of the LORD. (He restored the gate on the north side of the inner court of the temple)

³⁶ Now the rest of the acts of Jotham, and all that he did, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah?

2Chronicles-27 (He led Judah to defeat the Amorites. God ordered Joshua to completely destroy the Amorites when Israel entered the Promised Land. He failed to do so)

³⁷ In those days the LORD began to send against Judah Rezin the king of Syria, and Pekah the son of Remaliah. (This was at the end of Jotham's reign. Ahaz his son began to reign. He would be one of the worst kings ever to rule Judah)

³⁸ And Jotham slept with his fathers, and was buried with his fathers in the city of David his father: and Ahaz his son reigned in his stead.