

2 Chronicles 25

King James Version (KJV)

25 Amaziah was twenty and five years old when he began to reign, and he reigned twenty and nine years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Jehoaddan of Jerusalem. (Jehoaddan = whom Yah adorns; Amaziah is the son of Joash) (Amaziah = strength of Yah)

2Kings-14:3-4 (He did good, but not as well as David)

²And he did that which was right in the sight of the LORD, but not with a perfect heart. (He did well in the early years, but completely messed up in the latter years)

(Also, he didn't take down the high places of false worship - some to Yahoveh, some to heathen idols. Both were illegal per God's commandments)

³Now it came to pass, when the kingdom was established to him, that he slew his servants that had killed the king his father. Chapter-24:26

⁴But he slew not 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 die for the children, neither shall the children die for the fathers, but every man shall die for his own sin. Deuteronomy-24:16, Ezekiel-18:20, Jeremiah-31:29

⁵Moreover Amaziah gathered Judah together, and made them captains over thousands, and captains over hundreds, according to the houses of their fathers, throughout all Judah and Benjamin: and he numbered them from twenty years old and above, and found them three hundred thousand choice men, able to go forth to war, that could handle spear and shield. (This is down from over a million men. Jehoshaphat had an army of 1.1 million men. Judah's idolatry caused them to lose God's favor)

(Amaziah is preparing for war with the Edomites)

⁶He hired also an hundred thousand mighty men of valour out of Israel for an hundred talents of silver. (These were mercenaries from the 10 northern tribes. He should be looking to God for help; not to Israel)

⁷But there came a man of God to him, saying, O king, let not the army of Israel go with thee; for the LORD is not with Israel, to wit, with all

the children of Ephraim. (They were golden calf worshippers – from the days of Jeroboam. They abandoned God so He abandoned them)

(Ephraim can also stand for Israel – the 10 northern tribes. They were ruled by Ephraim)

⁸ But if thou wilt go, do it; be strong for the battle: God shall make thee fall before the enemy: for God hath power to help, and to cast down. (Bad translation – God will NOT let thee fall before the enemy)

⁹ And Amaziah said to the man of God, But what shall we do for the hundred talents which I have given to the army of Israel? And the man of God answered, The LORD is able to give thee much more than this. (You wasted money on those mercenaries. Let it go, and learn from your mistake. God can provide much more to those who love Him)

¹⁰ Then Amaziah separated them, to wit, the army that was come to him out of Ephraim, to go home again: wherefore their anger was greatly kindled against Judah, and they returned home in great anger. (They were paid for doing nothing but that wasn't enough. They wanted the spoils of war from the Edomites)

¹¹ And Amaziah strengthened himself, and led forth his people, and went to the valley of salt, and smote of the children of Seir ten thousand. (valley of salt – south of the Dead Sea) (children of Seir – the Edomites; the descendents of Esau)

¹² And other ten thousand left alive did the children of Judah carry away captive, and brought them unto the top of the rock, and cast them down from the top of the rock, that they all were broken in pieces. (This is pure evil – in my opinion) (Usually, captives were made servants)

¹³ But the soldiers of the army which Amaziah sent back, that they should not go with him to battle, fell upon the cities of Judah, from Samaria even unto Bethhoron, and smote three thousand of them, and took much spoil. (The mercenaries couldn't get spoils from the Edomites, so they got their spoil from Judah)

¹⁴ Now it came to pass, after that Amaziah was come from the slaughter of the Edomites, that he brought the gods of the children of Seir, and set them up to be his gods, and bowed down himself before them, and burned incense unto them. (They took the idols of the defeated people and worshipped them!)

(This king is a fool. He already had God's support and a prophet to guide him. Instead, he chooses the idols of the losers)

¹⁵ Wherefore the anger of the LORD was kindled against Amaziah, and he sent unto him a prophet, which said unto him, Why hast thou sought after the gods of the people, which could not deliver their own people out of thine hand? (This is a slap in the face to God by Amaziah)

¹⁶ And it came to pass, as he talked with him, that the king said unto him, Art thou made of the king's counsel? forbear; why shouldest thou be smitten? Then the prophet forbore, and said, I know that God hath determined to destroy thee, because thou hast done this, and hast not hearkened unto my counsel. (Amaziah is proving his stupidity again; by threatening a prophet of God)

¹⁷ Then Amaziah king of Judah took advice, and sent to Joash, the son of Jehoahaz, the son of Jehu, king of Israel, saying, Come, let us see one another in the face. (He took advice from fools)

(This Joash was of Israel. The Joash of the previous chapter was of Judah. He was Amaziah's father)

(Let us see one another in the face - this means- Let's have war)

¹⁸ 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 thy daughter to my son to wife: and there passed by a wild beast that was in Lebanon, and trode down the thistle. (The small and weak nation <Judah> dares to threaten the big and mighty <Israel>. Your bloated pride will be your downfall)

¹⁹ Thou sayest, Lo, thou hast smitten the Edomites; and thine heart lifteth thee up to boast: abide now at home; why shouldest thou meddle to thine hurt, that thou shouldest fall, even thou, and Judah with thee? (Your pride is going to do you in. He is giving Judah a warning, but Amaziah won't listen)

²⁰ But Amaziah would not hear; for it came of God, that he might deliver them into the hand of their enemies, because they sought after the gods of Edom. (This was God's judgment on Amaziah; for his idol worship; and for threatening to kill a prophet of God)

²¹ So Joash the king of Israel went up; and they saw one another in the face, both he and Amaziah king of Judah, at Bethshemesh, which belongeth to Judah. (Bethshemesh = house of the sun; they had become sun worshippers)

²² And Judah was put to the worse before Israel, and they fled every man to his tent. (Judah lost the battle to Israel and was forced to retreat)

²³ And Joash the king of Israel took Amaziah king of Judah, the son of Joash, the son of Jehoahaz, at Bethshemesh, and brought him to Jerusalem, and brake down the wall of Jerusalem from the gate of Ephraim to the corner gate, four hundred cubits. (This left Jerusalem in a state that was very difficult to defend. Their walls were their main defense against invasion)

²⁴ And he took all the gold and the silver, and all the vessels that were found in the house of God with Obedom, and the treasures of the king's house, the hostages also, and returned to Samaria. (Hostages mean sons of security. They were taken to prevent future revenge from Judah) (Judgment on Amaziah done)

²⁵ And Amaziah the son of Joash king of Judah lived after the death of Joash son of Jehoahaz king of Israel fifteen years. (He outlived Joash, but he was a powerless king who left Jerusalem almost defenseless)

²⁶ Now the rest of the acts of Amaziah, first and last, behold, are they not written in the book of the kings of Judah and Israel? **2Kings-14**

²⁷ Now after the time that Amaziah did turn away from following the LORD they made a conspiracy against him in Jerusalem; and he fled to Lachish: but they sent to Lachish after him, and slew him there. (Lachish means invincible; not so much for Amaziah) (The people had had enough of his idol worship)

²⁸ And they brought him upon horses, and buried him with his fathers in the city of Judah.