

“Amaziah: The King Who Should Have Known Better”

2 Chronicles 25

*“He did what was right in the eyes of the Lord,
but not wholeheartedly.” (25:2)*

There seems to be an ongoing pattern developing in 2 Chronicles when it comes to the kings; very few of them follow God “wholeheartedly”. Like his father, Joash, Amaziah seems to have two different ‘lives’. One where he followed God and one where he didn’t. And like his father because of his unwise decisions he experiences a similar fate. The lack of a “good” king continues the hope to look for the ultimate true King, son of David [Jesus], who will yet return and rule for a 1000 years

“The Heart of the Problem” (25:1-13)

How does 2 Kings 14:3-4 help us understand what the Chronicler meant by not following God “wholeheartedly”?

2 Kings 14:3 “He did what was right in the eyes of the LORD, but not as his father _____ had done. In everything he followed the example of his father _____.”

v.4 “The _____ places, however, were not removed; the people continued to offer _____ and burn incense there.”

Why was this always a problem?

Deut. 12:2-7

v.2 Because that’s the way the n_____ worshipped their gods

v.5 seek the p_____ God will choose for His worship

***Amaziah did not follow the LORD ‘wholeheartedly’. The Hebrew word for ‘whole’ is shalom. The word means complete, fulfilled, unhindered relationships. How does this help us understand “wholehearted” better in the Scriptures?**

Look up 1 Chron. 12:38. This Hebrew phrase for ‘whole heart’ is translated differently here to give us another aspect of the phrase

1 Chron. 12:38 “All these were fighting men who volunteered to serve in the ranks. They came to Hebron _____ ‘_____’ to make David king over all Israel. [NIV]
_____ heart [KJV, NASB]
_____ heart [NKJV]
_____ purpose [TLB]

Amaziah’s father Josiah was murdered. How did he deal with it now that he was king?

v.3 “After the kingdom was firmly in his control, he _____ the officials who had murdered his father”

Why did he do this? Weren't those men justified for killing his father, who had acted wickedly?

Read 2 Sam. 1:11-16

It was customary of the culture for the new king to remove the prior king's descendants so there are no threats to the throne. But what does he do?

v.4 "Yet he did put their sons to _____, but acted in accordance with what is written in the Law, in the Book of Moses: "Fathers shall not be put to death for their children, nor children put to death for their fathers; each is to die for his own sins."

For which of Saul's sons did David show extreme kindness and allow to sit at his table in the palace?

2 Sam. 9 _____

Amaziah wanted to see how big an army he had. How many were there?

v.5 300 _____

How many did his grandfather Joash have at his disposal?

17:14-19 1 _____, 160 _____

What did he do about that?

v.6 Hired 100,000 from _____

What did god have to say about that?

v.7 "But a man of God came to him and said, 'O king these troops from Israel must not march with you, for the LORD is not _____ Israel – not with _____ of the people of Ephraim.

v.8 "Even if you go and fight _____ in battle, God will _____ you before the enemy, for God has the _____ to help or overthrow."

What was Amaziah more worried about losing in v.9?

What did Amaziah?

What was the outcome?

"The Consequences" (25:14-28)

What did Amaziah do to celebrate the victory?

v.14 "... he brought back the _____ of the people of Seir. He set them up as his _____ gods, bowed down to them and burned _____ to them."

Look at these passages and note that when nations captured other nations, it was customary to put their 'gods' in a place of honour (like a trophy room idea) where they could be displayed – like mounting deer or moose heads!

1 Sam. 5:1-3

Dan. 1:1-2; 5:1-6

This was a practice Israel should never have done for it resulted in the temptation to worship these [non] gods.

Read Isaiah 44

Not surprisingly God sends a prophet again to rebuke Amaziah and point him in the right direction

v.15 “The anger of the LORD _____ against Amaziah and he sent a prophet to him and said ‘Why do you consult this _____ gods, which could _____ save their own people from your hand?’”

Does Amaziah accept the Word of the Lord like before and obey God here? _____

Later on he wants to go to war against the north (Israel). Who does he consult?

v.17 His _____

Since Amaziah is no longer listening to God or his prophets God does something He does on occasion when His people won't listen to Him. Through whom did God speak here?

vv.18-20 King _____ of Israel (who God said He wasn't with! [v.7])

Amaziah loses the battle and many of his people die. Because he didn't listen to God what else happened?

vv.27-28

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