

# Royal Lessons for Life

## Uzziah and Jotham

(Judah)

### Uzziah's Biography

- He is called *Azariah* ("Jehovah helps") in II Kings and *Uzziah* ("my strength is Jehovah") in II Chronicles.
- He begins his reign at age 16 and reigns for 52 years – II Kings 15:1-2, II Chronicles 26:3
- He was a good king that followed the Lord as long he was influenced by a prophet named Zechariah (not the author of the book) – II Chronicles 26:5
  - The people, however, seem to have drifted from the Lord – Isaiah 1-5
- He was a successful military leader.
  - He organized a great army – II Chronicles 26:11-13
  - He built defenses and developed new weaponry – II Chronicles 26:9-10,14-15
  - He warred against the Philistines, Arabians, Meunims, and Ammonites – II Chronicles 26:6-8
- At the height of his power, he makes a terrible mistake and tries to personally offer incense in the Temple and is struck with leprosy – II Kings 15:5, II Chronicles 26:16-20, Numbers 18:7
- His son Jotham was co-ruler for the rest of his reign – II Kings 15:5, 2 Kings 26:21

### Jotham's Biography

- Jotham reigned for 16 years and followed the Lord – II Kings 15:32-34, II Chronicles 27:1
  - However, the people were corrupt – II Kings 15:35, II Chronicles 27:2
- He continued his father's focus on building military strength – II Chronicles 27:3-4
- He led a successful campaign against the Ammonites and received tribute from them – II Chronicles 27:5
- He also warred against Pekah of Israel and Rezin of Syria – II Kings 15:37
- His son Ahaz inherited the throne – II Kings 15:38, II Chronicles 27:9

### Lessons from the Lives of Uzziah and Jotham

- Uzziah reminds us that there is great danger of falling after great victories – Proverbs 1:32, Psalm 69:22
- There is no *personal* fault to be found in Jotham. His only recorded failure was in *leadership* by not bringing the people to serve God properly – Proverbs 11:14