King Uzziah's Legacy (2nd Chronicles 26:5)

Tony Mauck · 2 Chronicles 26:5

INTRODUCTION

- His name means the Lord is my strength. I like how names were given that brought honor to the Lord.
- And as long as he sought the Lord, God prospered him. Oh, there's some ominous. An ominous statement there.

1 A Pious and Powerful Beginning

2 Chronicles 26:16

- But when he became strong, his heart was so proud that he acted corruptly, and he was unfaithful to the Lord his God.
- Here is a king who had a pious and powerful beginning.
- Righteousness and zeal for the Lord in the early days of adulthood are no guarantee of future faithfulness.
- Strong faith, sufficient faith, is going to require ongoing effort and activity in our lives. It's not going to just happen.
- Uzziah's legacy is one of warning us about not becoming complacent in regard to our investment in spiritual things.

2 Eighty Valiant Men With Courage to Do Right

2 Chronicles 26:17–18

- Azariah the priest entered after him, and with him eighty priests of the Lord.
- It is not for you, Uzziah to burn incense to the Lord, but for the priests, the sons of Aaron, who are consecrated to burn incense.
- But sometimes hard things have to be done. Unpleasant things that nobody wants to do, but have to do. Because they're right. And it takes courage.
- We need to be men and women of courage who do the right thing. Regardless of what the consequences are.
- We need to be able to and ready to stand with those who choose to do right and give them support.

3 No Honor From the Lord

2 Chronicles 26:18

- No honor from the Lord. And I just want to say to you that's what's at stake in the spiritual decisions that we make.

- Look, there's all kinds of things at stake in the decisions that we make.
- One of the things that I want you to remember as you leave this place tonight that we go out there and live for the honor of the Lord.

4 Don't Be Enraged Like Uzziah Was

2 Chronicles 26:19

- When he became strong, his heart was so proud that he acted corruptly. And guess what he still has at this moment? A proud heart.
- If they're telling you your behavior isn't what it needs to be, you might want to at least listen humbly to what they're telling.
- Handle it with the greatest humility that you can muster. Now, the criticism may be unwarranted, but still, give it a hearing.
- Don't be enraged like Uzziah was. Defend your actions or words if need be, but come. Listen.
- Uzziah's response is increasingly common in our times. Who are you to tell me anything?

5 One Great Moment of Folly

2 Chronicles 26:19–21

- All of a sudden, God causes leprosy to break out on his head. And immediate judgment.
- Just because judgment doesn't come immediately, doesn't mean it's not noted in heaven.
- And he lived in a separate house being a leper. For he was cut off from the house of the Lord.
- One great moment of folly can change your life forever.
- And the repercussions of our sin don't always last a lifetime. But sometimes they do.

THE CHALLENGE

At the end of it all, may it be said of us that our contribution among the Lord's people was faithful, fervent, and consistent. Let that be your legacy.

MY NOTES