

2 CHRONICLES CHAPTER 26

¹ Then all the people of the land took Uzziah, who was sixteen years old, and they made him king in the place of his father Amaziah. ² He built Elath, he restored it to Judah, after the king slept with his fathers. ³ Uzziah began to reign at the age of sixteen years, and he reigned fifty-two years in Jerusalem; and his mother's name was Jecholiah of Jerusalem. ⁴ And he did that which was right in the sight of the Lord, according to all that Amaziah his father did. ⁵ And he sought the Lord in the days of Zechariah, who understood the fear of the Lord; and in his days he sought the Lord, and the Lord prospered him.

⁶ And he went out and fought against the Philistines, and pulled down the walls of Gath, and the walls of Jabneh, and the walls of Ashdod, and he built cities *near* Ashdod, and among the Philistines. ⁷ And the Lord strengthened him against the Philistines, and against the Arabians that dwelt on the rock, and against the Meunites. ⁸ And the Meunites gave gifts to Uzziah; and his fame spread as far as the entering in of Egypt, for he strengthened *himself* exceedingly. ⁹ And Uzziah built towers in Jerusalem, both at the Corner Gate, and at the Valley Gate, and at the corner buttress of the wall; and he fortified them. ¹⁰ And he built towers in the wilderness, and dug many wells, for he had many cattle in the low country and in the plain; and vinedressers in the mountain country and in Carmel, for he was a farmer.

¹¹ And Uzziah had a host of warriors that went out orderly to war, and returned orderly in number; and their number was *made* by the hand of Jeiel the scribe, and Maaseiah the officer, by the hand of Hananiah the king's deputy. ¹² The whole number of the chiefs of families of the mighty men of war *was* two thousand six hundred; ¹³ and with them was a warrior force *of* three hundred thousand and seven thousand five hundred; these waged war mightily to help the king against *his* enemies. ¹⁴ And Uzziah prepared for them, *even* for all the army, shields, spears, helmets, breastplates, bows, and slings for stones. ¹⁵ And he made in Jerusalem machines invented by a wise contriver, to be upon the towers and upon the corners, to cast darts and great stones. And *the fame* of their preparation was heard from a great distance; for he was marvelously helped, till he became strong.

¹⁶ And when he was strong, his heart was lifted up to his destruction; and he transgressed against the Lord his God, and went into the temple of the Lord to burn incense on the altar of incense. ¹⁷ And Azariah the priest went in after him, and with him eighty priests of the Lord, mighty men. ¹⁸ And they withstood Uzziah the king, and said to him, "*It is not for you, Uzziah, to burn incense to the Lord, but only for the priests, the sons of Aaron, who are consecrated to sacrifice: Leave the sanctuary, for you have departed from the Lord; and this shall not be for glory to you from the Lord God.*" ¹⁹ And Uzziah was angry, and in his hand *was* the censer to burn incense in the temple. And when he was angry with the priests, then the leprosy rose up in his forehead before the priests in the house of the Lord, over the altar of incense. ²⁰ And Azariah the chief priest, and the *other* priests, turned *to look* at him, and behold, he *was* leprous in his forehead; and they got him out of there quickly, for he also hastened to go out, because the Lord had rebuked him. ²¹ And Uzziah the king was a leper until the day of his

death, and he dwelt *as* a leper in a separate house; for he was cut off from the house of the Lord; and Jotham his son *was set* over his kingdom, judging the people of the land.

²² And the rest of the acts of Uzziah, the first and the last, *are* written by Isaiah the prophet. ²³ And Uzziah slept with his fathers, and they buried him with his fathers in the field of the burial *place* of the kings, for they said, "He is a leper"; and Jotham his son reigned in his place.