

(I) JUDAH UNDER AZARIAH (UZZIAH)

1. He had a very long reign of 52 years (2 Kings 15:1-2)
2. He did that which was right in God's sight after the model of Amaziah his father (2 Kings 15:3)
3. Good features of Uzziah's reign
 - a) Restored city of Elath (2 Chronicles 26:2)
 - b) He sought God in the days of Zechariah (unknown prophet) (2 Chronicles 26:5)
 - c) Developed great military strength (2 Chronicles 26:8, 11-15)
 - i) Fought Philistines (2 Chronicles 26:6)
 - ii) Fought Ammonites (2 Chronicles 26:8)
 - iii) Built fortified towers in Jerusalem and in the desert (2 Chronicles 26:9-10)
 - iv) Focused on cultivation of the Land because he loved the soil (2 Chronicles 26:10)
4. Bad features of Uzziah's reign
 - a) He did not take away the high places (2 Kings 15: 4-5)
 - b) He became arrogant in his heart (2 Chronicles 26:16)
 - c) He demanded the right to offer incense to the Lord in his personal capacity (2 Chronicles 26:16)
 - d) Azariah and 80 other priests resisted him (2 Chronicles 26:17-18)
 - i) The right to offer incense belonged to the priests
 - ii) Azariah was correct to stand up to King Uzziah even if it was dangerous
 - e) Uzziah became furious that he was withstood (2 Chronicles 26:19)

Arrogance was his stumbling block

 - f) He was struck with leprosy by the Lord (2 Chronicles 26:29-22)

- i) This was a direct judgment from the Lord
- ii) There was no other way of dealing with the situation
- iii) He was the driven out of the temple
- g) He was a leper when he died (2 Chronicles 26:23)
- i) He was unrepentant to the very end
- ii) Success turned to failure