

How Victory Can Lead To Defeat

II Kings 14:1-20

Avenges his father—as the Law had prescribed (1-6)

- ❖ Amaziah joins a select group of only eight kings who “do right.”
- ❖ Justice upon his father’s murderers is properly limited, Dt. 24:16.

Defeats Edom—as David had once done (7)

- ❖ Jehoash’s once tiny army (13:7) now has mercenaries to spare for war.
- ❖ Prophetic warning is given against counting on numbers / northerners (“Lord is not with Israel” yet see II Kgs. 13:14-25 / II Chron. 25:20). God often switches sides, depending on our responses and His plans.
- ❖ This prestige-giving victory recalls David’s win back in II Sam. 8:13, 14.
- ❖ Amaziah pays dearly for hiring Israelites—in money and angry raiding by frustrated northerners, but to his credit he obeyed God’s prophet.

Trounced by Israel—as he had been warned (8-20)

- ❖ Amaziah confidently now confronts Israel (result of II Chron. 25:13?)
- ❖ Why does Amaziah bow before Edomite gods (25:14-16) and blow off warnings from both Jehoash and a prophet! What is he thinking?
- ❖ God switches sides as Amaziah did (25:20) and backs evil Israel now. This = 4h time the palace and temple treasures are lost to outsiders.
- ❖ Amaziah finishes poorly just as his dad did and ends up assassinated.

Have you noticed just how common Amaziah’s disease is—even in the church?

Is Amaziah’s “disease” something you have been infected with before? Will you be watching for it?

