

~AMAZIAH 2 (295)

(Am-a-zī'ah) [Yehowah Is Strong]

- King of Judah who, in 858 B.C.E, came to the throne at 25 and ruled for 29 years from the assassination of his father Jehoash. His mother was Jehoaddin, or Jehoaddan, his wife Jecoliah.
- In the second year of Jehoash the son of Jehoahaz the king of Israel, **Amaziah** the son of Jehoash the king of Judah became king. (2 Kings 14:1)
- Twenty-five years old he happened to be when he began to reign, and for twenty-nine years he reigned in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Jehoaddin of Jerusalem. (2 Kings 14:2)
- Sixteen years old he happened to be when he began to reign, and for fifty-two years he reigned in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Jecoliah of Jerusalem. (2 Kings 15:2)
- At the age of twenty-five years **Amaziah** became king, and for twenty-nine years he reigned in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Jehoaddan of Jerusalem. (2 Chronicles 25:1)
- Sixteen years old was Uzziah when he began to reign, and for fifty-two years he reigned in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Jecoliah of Jerusalem. (2 Chronicles 26:3)
- With the kingdom firm in his hand, he executed those that had murdered his father, but he heeded the Law of Moses not to punish their sons.
- And it came about that as soon as the kingdom had become firm in his hand, he began to strike down his servants that had struck down the king his father. (2 Kings 14:5)
- And the sons of the strikers he did not put to death, according to what is written in the book of Moses Law that Yehowah gave in command, saying; Fathers should not be put to death for sons, and sons themselves should not be put to death for fathers, but for his own sin should each one be put to death. (2 Kings 14:6)
- Fathers should not be put to death on account of children, and

children should not be put to death on account of fathers. Each one should be put to death for his own sin. ([Deuteronomy 24:16](#))

- His reign was marked by some enthusiasm for true worship but not with a complete heart and not without serious shortcomings that brought disaster both to himself and to the nation of Judah. The record of his rule deals primarily with two military campaigns.
- And he continued to do what was right in Yehowah's eyes, only not with a complete heart. ([2 Chronicles 25:2](#))
- **Amaziah** was first successful against Edom, or Seir, using a force of 300,000 from Judah and Benjamin. He had also hired 100,000 mercenaries from Israel, but upon the advice of a man of God he paid them off and sent them home.
- Yehowah gave **Amaziah** a smashing victory in the Valley of Salt, allowing him to kill off 20,000 of the enemy and to capture Sela, which he renamed Joktheel. However, **Amaziah** brought the gods of Seir back with him and began worshiping them, causing Yehowah's anger to blaze against him.
- Why have you searched for the peoples gods that did not deliver their own people out of your hand? **Amaziah** only compounded the injury by silencing Yehowah's prophet. ([2 Chronicles 25:15](#))
- He himself struck down the Edomites in the Valley of Salt, ten thousand men, and got to seize Sela in the war, and its name came to be called Joktheel down to this day. ([2 Kings 14:7](#))
- And **Amaziah** proceeded to collect Judah together and to have them stand according to the house of the forefathers, by the chiefs of thousands and by the chiefs of hundreds for all Judah and Benjamin, and he went on to register them from twenty years of age upward, and finally he found them to be three hundred thousand choice men going out to the army, handling lance and large shield. ([2 Chronicles 25:5](#))
- Further, he hired from Israel a hundred thousand valiant, mighty men for a hundred silver talents. ([2 Chronicles 25:6](#))
- And a certain man of the true God came to him, saying; O king, do not let the army of Israel come with you, for Yehowah is not with Israel, that is, all the sons of Ephraim. ([2 Chronicles 25:7](#))

- But come you yourself, act, be courageous for the war. The true God could cause you to stumble before an enemy, for there exists power with God to help and to cause stumbling. (2 Chronicles 25:8)
- At this **Amaziah** said to the man of the true God; But what is there to do about the hundred talents that I have given to the troops of Israel? To this the man of the true God said; There exists with Yehowah the means to give you much more than this. (2 Chronicles 25:9)
- Accordingly **Amaziah** separated them, namely, the troops that had come to him from Ephraim, to go to their own place. However, their anger got very hot against Judah, so that they returned to their own place in the heat of anger. (2 Chronicles 25:10)
- And **Amaziah**, for his part, took courage and proceeded to lead his own people and go to the Valley of Salt, and he went striking down the sons of Seir, ten thousand of them. (2 Chronicles 25:11)
- And there were ten thousand that the sons of Judah captured alive. So they brought them to the top of the crag, and proceeded to throw them from the top of the crag, and they, one and all, burst apart. (2 Chronicles 25:12)
- As for the members of the troop whom **Amaziah** had sent back from going with him to the war, they began making raids upon the cities of Judah, from Samaria clear to Beth-horon, and went striking down three thousand of them and taking a great plunder. (2 Chronicles 25:13)
- But it occurred after **Amaziah** came from striking down the Edomites that he now brought the gods of the sons of Seir and set them up for himself as gods, and before them he began to bow down, and to them he began to make sacrificial smoke. (2 Chronicles 25:14)
- Consequently Yehowah's anger became hot against **Amaziah**, and so he sent a prophet to him and said to him; Why have you searched for the peoples gods that did not deliver their own people out of your hand? (2 Chronicles 25:15)

- And it came about when he spoke to him that the king immediately said to him; Was it a counselor of the king that we constituted you? Quit for your own sake. Why should they strike you down? Accordingly the prophet quit, but he said; I certainly know that God has resolved to bring you to ruin, because you have done this and you have not listened to my counsel. (2 Chronicles 25:16)
- **Amaziah's** second campaign was tragic from start to finish. The 100,000 from Israel who were dismissed raided towns of Judah on their return north. Perhaps it was this that provoked **Amaziah** foolishly to challenge Jehoash of the strong northern kingdom, saying;
- Do come. Let us look each other in the face.(2 Kings 14:8)
- Jehoash's response; How foolish for a thorny weed to confront a massive cedar only to be trampled by a wild beast! **Amaziah** refused to listen, he was apparently puffed up with his recent victory, and Yehowah had doomed **Amaziah** to defeat because of his idolatry.
- The battle was joined at Beth-shemesh, Judah fled, **Amaziah** was captured, a breach of about 178 meters (584 feet) was made in Jerusalem's wall, and much temple treasure and many hostages were carried back to Samaria.
- Then it was that **Amaziah** sent messengers to Jehoash the son of Jehoahaz the son of Jehu the king of Israel, saying; Do come. Let us look each other in the face. (2 Kings 14:8)
- At that Jehoash the king of Israel sent to **Amaziah** the king of Judah, saying; The thorny weed itself that was in Lebanon sent to the cedar that was in Lebanon, saying; Do give your daughter to my son as a wife. However, a wild beast of the field that was in Lebanon passed by and trampled the thorny weed down. (2 Kings 14:9)
- You have unmistakably struck down Edom, and your heart has lifted you up. Enjoy your honor and dwell in your own house. Why, then, should you engage in strife under unfavorable conditions and have to fall, you and Judah with you? (2 Kings 14:10)
- And **Amaziah** did not listen. So Jehoash the king of Israel came

- up, and they proceeded to look each other in the face, he and **Amaziah** the king of Judah, at Beth-shemesh, which belongs to Judah. (2 Kings 14:11)
- And Judah came to be defeated before Israel, so that they took to flight, each one to his tent. (2 Kings 14:12)
 - And it was **Amaziah** the king of Judah the son of Jehoash the son of Ahaziah that Jehoash the king of Israel captured at Beth-shemesh, after which they came to Jerusalem and he made a breach in the wall of Jerusalem at the Gate of Ephraim clear to the Corner Gate, four hundred cubits. (2 Kings 14:13)
 - And he took all the gold and silver and all the articles to be found at the house of Yehowah and in the treasures of the house of the king and the hostages and then returned to Samaria. (2 Kings 14:14)
 - As for the members of the troop whom **Amaziah** had sent back from going with him to the war, they began making raids upon the cities of Judah, from Samaria clear to Beth-horon, and went striking down three thousand of them and taking a great plunder. (2 Chronicles 25:13)
 - Then **Amaziah** the king of Judah took counsel and sent to Jehoash the son of Jehoahaz the son of Jehu the king of Israel, saying; Come! Let us look each other in the face. (2 Chronicles 25:17)
 - At that Jehoash the king of Israel sent to **Amaziah** the king of Judah, saying; The thorny weed itself that was in Lebanon sent to the cedar that was in Lebanon, saying; Do give your daughter to my son as a wife. However, a wild beast of the field that was in Lebanon passed by and trampled the thorny weed down. (2 Chronicles 25:18)
 - You have said to yourself; Here you have struck down Edom. And your heart has lifted you up to be glorified. Now do keep dwelling in your own house. Why should you engage in strife in a bad position and have to fall, you and Judah with you? (2 Chronicles 25:19)
 - But **Amaziah** did not listen, for it was from the true God for the purpose of giving them into his hand, because they had searched

for the gods of Edom. (2 Chronicles 25:20)

- So Jehoash the king of Israel went up, and they proceeded to look each other in the face, he and **Amaziah** the king of Judah, at Beth-shemesh, which belongs to Judah. (2 Chronicles 25:21)
- And Judah came to be defeated before Israel, so that they took to flight each one to his tent. (2 Chronicles 25:22)
- And it was **Amaziah** the king of Judah, the son of Jehoash the son of Jehoahaz, that Jehoash the king of Israel seized at Beth-shemesh, after which he brought him to Jerusalem and made a breach in the wall of Jerusalem, from the Gate of Ephraim clear to the Corner Gate, four hundred cubits. (2 Chronicles 25:23)
- And he took all the gold and the silver and all the articles that were to be found in the house of the true God with Obed-edom and the treasures of the king's house and the hostages, and then returned to Samaria. (2 Chronicles 25:24)
- From the time that **Amaziah** turned away from Yehowah's worship, a conspiracy was formed against him that finally forced **Amaziah** to flee to Lachish. There the conspirators put him to death. **Amaziah** was succeeded by his 16-year-old son Azariah, or Uzziah.
- And **Amaziah** the son of Jehoash the king of Judah continued to live after the death of Jehoash the son of Jehoahaz the king of Israel for fifteen years. (2 Kings 14:17)
- As for the rest of the affairs of **Amaziah**, are they not written in the book of the affairs of the days of the kings of Judah? (2 Kings 14:18)
- At length they leagued against him in a conspiracy at Jerusalem, and he went fleeing to Lachish, but they sent in pursuit of him to Lachish and put him to death there. (2 Kings 14:19)
- So they carried him upon horses and he was buried in Jerusalem with his forefathers in the City of David. (2 Kings 14:20)
- Then all the people of Judah took Azariah, he at the time being sixteen years old, and they made him king in place of his father **Amaziah**. (2 Kings 14:21)

- And **Amaziah** the son of Jehoash the king of Judah continued to live after the death of Jehoash the son of Jehoahaz the king of Israel fifteen years. (**2 Chronicles 25:25**)
- As for the rest of the affairs of **Amaziah**, the first and the last, look! are they not written in the Book of the Kings of Judah and Israel? (**2 Chronicles 25:26**)
- And from the time that **Amaziah** turned aside from following Yehowah, they proceeded to form a conspiracy against him in Jerusalem. At length he fled to Lachish, but they sent after him to Lachish and put him to death there. (**2 Chronicles 25:27**)
- So they carried him upon horses and buried him with his forefathers in the city of Judah. (**2 Chronicles 25:28**)