

2 Chronicles 27 - Jotham's Good Reign in Judah

IV. Judah's Kings (2 Chr 10:1—36:23)

(2) Reform and apostasy in Judah (2 Chr 12:1—36:14)

(K) Jotham's partial reforms (27:1-9)

2 Chronicles 27

(K) Jotham's partial reforms (27:1-9) (Cf. 2 Kings 15:32-38)

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1 Jotham was twenty-five years old when he became king, and he reigned sixteen years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Jerushah the daughter of Zadok.

1 Jotham was 25 years old when he began his reign, and he reigned for sixteen years in Jerusalem. His mother was Zadok's daughter Jerusha.

1 Jotham was twenty and five years old when he began to reign, and he reigned sixteen years in Jerusalem. His mother's name also was Jerushah, the daughter of Zadok.

2 He did what was right in the sight of the LORD, according to all that his father Uzziah had done; however he did not enter the temple of the LORD. But the people continued acting corruptly.

2 He did right in the sight of the LORD, according to all that his father Uzziah had done; however he did not enter the temple of the LORD. But the people continued acting corruptly.

2 He practiced what the LORD considered to be right, just as his father Uzziah had done, even though he did not enter the Temple. Nevertheless, the people continued acting corruptly.

2 And he did that which was right in the sight of the LORD, according to all that his father Uzziah did: howbeit he entered not into the temple of the LORD. And the people did yet corruptly.

- The reign of Uzziah's son Jotham began in 750 BC and hence overlapped Uzziah's by about 11 years (till Uzziah died in 739 BC)

— This is understandable in light of Uzziah's incapacity in the last years of his life (26:21)

— Jotham also co-reigned with his son for four years (735-731 BC), so that the reference to his length of reign as 16 years (Cf. 27:8) does not include that period. His dates as

principal ruler were the 16-year period of 750–735 BC.

3 He built the upper gate of the house of the LORD, and he built the wall of Ophel extensively.

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3 Jotham constructed the Upper Gate of the LORD's Temple and did extensive work on the wall of Ophel.

3 He built the high gate of the house of the LORD, and on the wall of Ophel he built much.

4 Moreover, he built cities in the hill country of Judah, and he built fortresses and towers on the wooded hills.

4 Moreover, he built cities in the hill country of Judah, and he built fortresses and towers on the wooded hills.

4 He also built cities in the hill country of Judah, along with fortresses and guard towers in the forests.

4 Moreover he built cities in the mountains of Judah, and in the forests he built castles and towers.

5 He fought with the king of the Ammonites and prevailed over them so that during that year the Ammonites gave him a hundred talents of silver, ten thousand kors of wheat, and ten thousand of barley. The Ammonites also paid him this amount in the second year and in the third.

5 He fought also with the king of the Ammonites and prevailed over them so that the Ammonites gave him during that year one hundred talents of silver, ten thousand kors of wheat and ten thousand of barley. The Ammonites also paid him this amount in the second and in the third year.

5 He launched a military excursion against the king of the Ammonites and defeated him. As a result, that year the Ammonites paid 100 talents of silver in tribute, as well as 10,000 kors of wheat and 10,000 kors of barley. The Ammonites continued to pay this same amount in tribute over the following two years.

5 He fought also with the king of the Ammonites, and prevailed against them. And the children of Ammon gave him the same year an hundred talents of silver, and ten thousand measures of wheat, and ten thousand of barley. So much did the children of Ammon pay unto him, both the second year, and the third.

- The Ammonites fell behind in their payment of tribute (Cf. 26:8) so Jotham brought them to heel by conquering them: now they were required to pay 100 talents of silver (33 tons), 10,000 cors of wheat (62,000 bushels), and 10,000 cors of barley.

— This they did for 3 successive years, after which perhaps the burden was lessened

6 So Jotham became powerful because he directed his ways before the LORD his God.

6 So Jotham became mighty because he ordered his ways before the LORD his God.

6 Jotham grew in power because he had determined to live his life in the presence of the LORD his God.

6 So Jotham became mighty, because he prepared his ways before the LORD his God.

- The reason why Jotham became strong: "he directed his ways before the LORD his God"

— Building projects and political success were two marks of divine blessing (Cf. 11:5-12; 14:6-7; 17:12-13; 26:9-10; 33:14)

7 Now the rest of the acts of Jotham, all his wars and his ways, behold, they are written in the Book of the Kings of Israel and Judah.

7 Now the rest of the acts of Jotham, even all his wars and his acts, behold, they are written in the Book of the Kings of Israel and Judah.

7 The rest of the accomplishments of Jotham's reign, including all of his military exploits and campaigns, are recorded in the book of the Kings of Israel and Judah.

7 Now the rest of the acts of Jotham, and all his wars, and his ways, lo, they are written in the book of the kings of Israel and Judah.

8 He was twenty-five years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem for sixteen years.

8 He was twenty-five years old when he became king, and he reigned sixteen years in Jerusalem.

8 He started his reign at the age of 25 years and he reigned for sixteen years in Jerusalem.

8 He was five and twenty years old when he began to reign, and reigned sixteen years in Jerusalem.

- The rest of Jotham's affairs could be found in the records of the kings of Israel and Judah (Cf. 2 Kings 15:32-38)

— While Jotham was a good king, he appears to have failed to lead his people in righteousness. There was no reformation of abuses or revival during his reign, as far as we know.

9 And Jotham lay down with his fathers, and they buried him in the city of David; and his son Ahaz became king in his place.

9 And Jotham slept with his fathers, and they buried him in the city of David; and Ahaz his son became king in his place.

9 Then Jotham died, as had his fathers, and he was buried in the City of David. His son Ahaz became king in his place.

9 And Jotham slept with his fathers, and they buried him in the city of David: and Ahaz his son reigned in his stead.