



WHEN  
THE RISE  
BECOMES  
THE RISK

Uzziah was **sixteen years old** when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem fifty-two years. His mother was Jecoliah from Jerusalem. <sup>4</sup> He did what was pleasing in the Lord's sight, just as **his father, Amaziah**, had done. <sup>5</sup> Uzziah sought God during the days of Zechariah, who taught him to fear God. And as long as the king sought guidance from the Lord, God gave him success.

— 2 Chronicles 26:3-5 (NLT) —



# WHEN THE RISE BECOMES THE RISK

## JUDAH AND ISRAEL DURING THE REIGN OF UZZIAH

2 Kings 14  
2 Chron 26

A time of great military success and economic prosperity in both the Kingdom of Israel and Judah. In the environment, corruption and social injustice flourish.

- Fortified Cities
- Capital City
- City
- Kingdom of Judah
- States under tribute to Judah
- Territory occupied by Judah
- Kingdom of Israel
- Territory conquered by Israel
- Battle
- Jeroboam's Golden Calves
- Birth place of a prophet



## GREAT EXPLOITS BEYOND JUDAH



God helped him in his wars against the Philistines...

2 Chronicles 26:6-8



CORNERSTONE

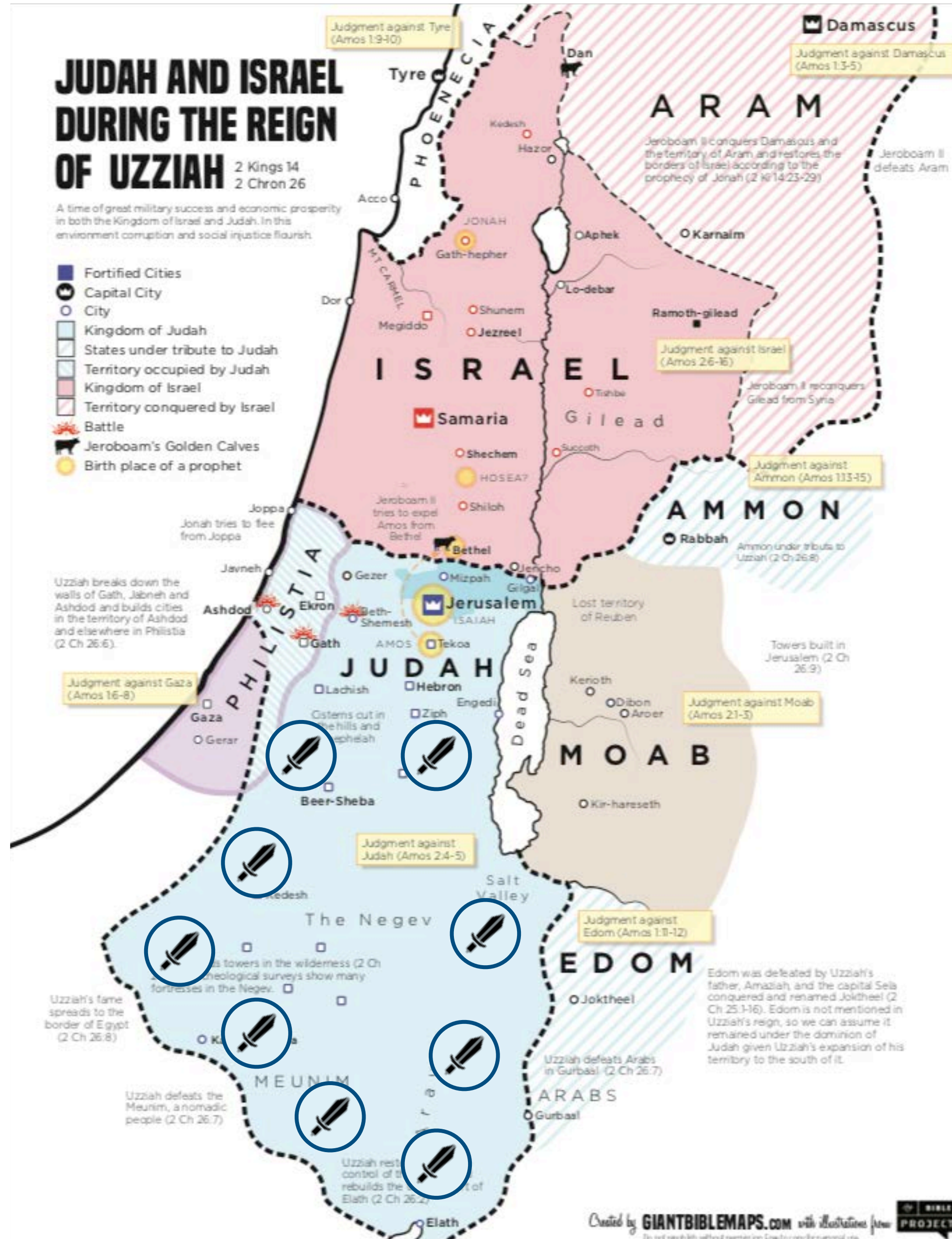


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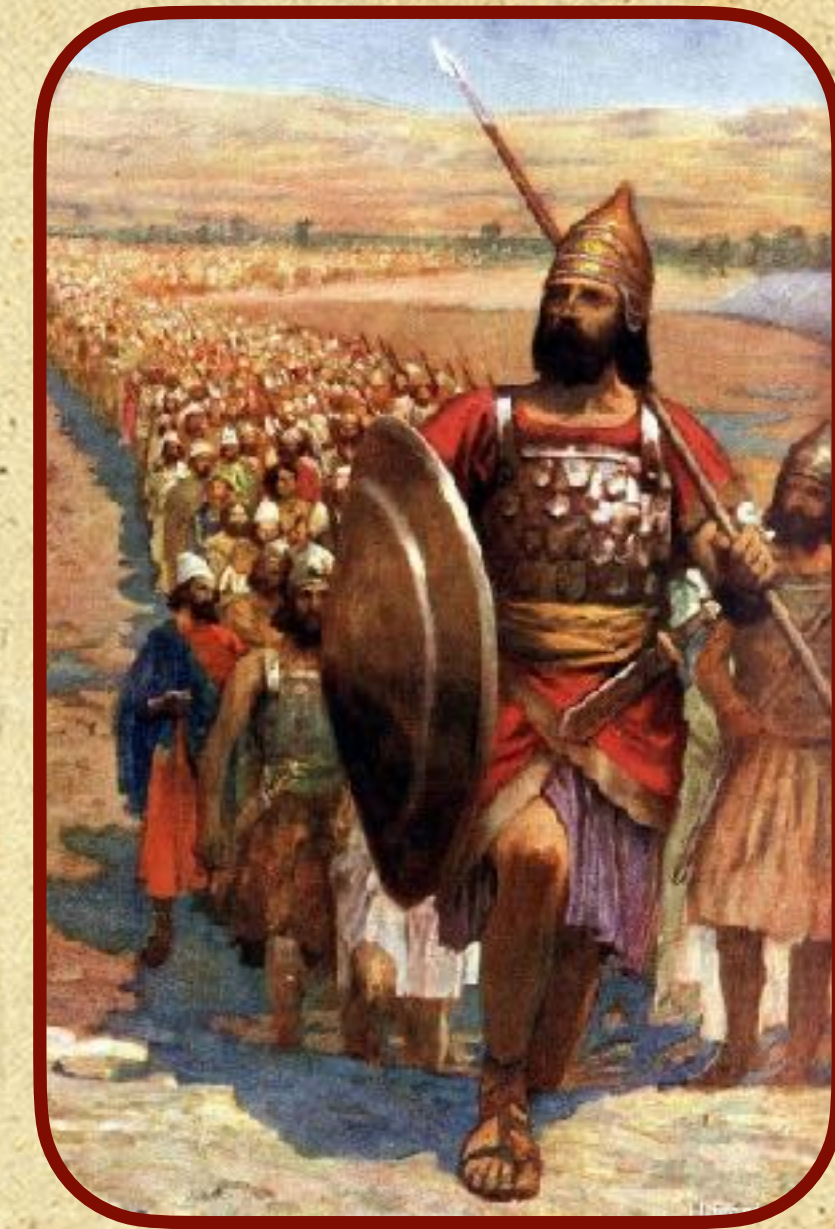
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**MILITARY  
 SUCCESS**



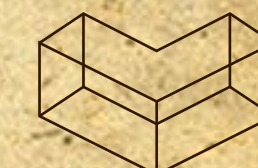
**2 Chronicles 26:11-15**



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His fame spread far and wide, for **the Lord gave him marvelous help**, and he became very powerful.

— 2 Chronicles 26:15 (NLT) —



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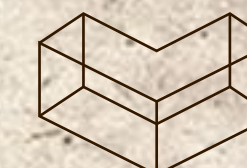
# Uzziah's Downfall



But when he had **become powerful**, he also **became proud**, which led to his downfall.

He sinned against the Lord his God by entering the sanctuary of the Lord's Temple and personally burning incense on the incense altar.

— 2 Chronicles 26:16 (NLT) —

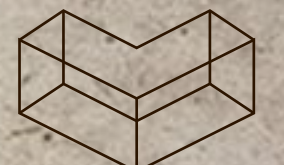
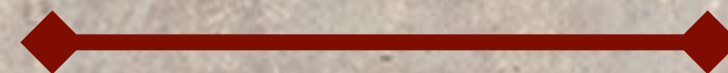


WHEN  
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**LESSONS**

FROM

**KING UZZIAH'S LIFE**



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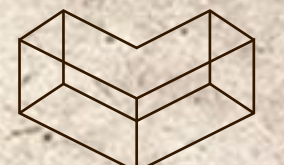
# Remember God



Uzziah sought God **during the days of Zechariah**, who taught him to fear God. And as long as the king sought guidance from the Lord, God gave him success.

— 2 Chronicles 26:5 (NLT) —

Zechariah means **'God remembers'**.



# Which Azariah are you?

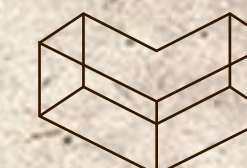
**Azariah the high priest** went in after him with 80 other priests of the Lord, **all brave men**.<sup>18</sup> They confronted King Uzziah and said, "It is not for you, Uzziah, to burn incense to the Lord. That's the work of the priests alone, the sons of Aaron who are set apart for this work. **Get out of the sanctuary**, for you have sinned. The Lord God will not honour you for this!"

— 2 Chronicles 26:17-18 (NLT) —



And all the people of Judah took **Azariah**,  
who was **sixteen years old**, and made him King of Judah  
instead of **his father Amaziah**.

— 2 Kings 14:21 —



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Azariah *means*  
'God has Helped'



Uzziah *means*  
'God is my Strength'



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Pride goes before destruction,  
And a haughty spirit before a fall.

— Proverbs 16:18 —



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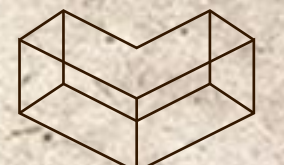
“Anytime you see a turtle up on top of a fence post, you know he had some help.”

**Alex Haley,  
author of *Roots***

# Beware of Pride

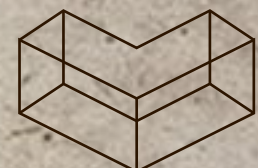
Uzziah, who was holding an incense burner, became **furious**. But as he was standing there, **raging** at the priests before the incense altar in the Lord's Temple, **leprosy suddenly broke out** on his **forehead**.<sup>20</sup> When Azariah the high priest and all the other priests saw the leprosy, they rushed him out. And the king himself was eager to get out because the Lord had struck him.

— 2 Chronicles 26:19-20 (NLT) —



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# WHY LEPROSY?



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Guard your heart above all else,  
for it determines the course of your life.

— **Proverbs 4:23 (NLT)** —



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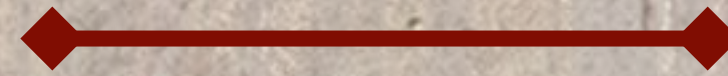
**Spiritual Leprosy is an  
Outward Manifestation  
of an Inward Decay.**



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**THE ANTIDOTE**  
TO PRIDE IS  
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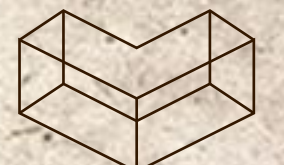
CORNERSTONE

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# Make Thanksgiving My Daily Routine

Rejoice always, pray continually,  
**give thanks in all circumstances;** for this is  
**God's will for you** in Christ Jesus.

— 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 (NIV) —



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# How did Uzziah's story end?



So King Uzziah had leprosy until the day he died. He lived in **isolation** in a separate house, for he was excluded from the Temple of the Lord.

<sup>23</sup> When Uzziah died, he was buried with his ancestors; his grave was in a **nearby burial field** belonging to the kings (not inside the royal tombs for kings), **for the people said**, "He had leprosy."

2 Chronicles 26:21, 23 (NLT)



# God Redeems



The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the Son of David, the Son of Abraham: <sup>2</sup> Abraham begot Isaac, Isaac begot Jacob, and Jacob begot Judah and his brothers... <sup>8</sup> Asa begot Jehoshaphat, Jehoshaphat begot Joram, and Joram begot **Uzziah**.

— Matthew 1:1-2, 8 —

