



KING UZZIAH: SUCCESS VS DOWNFALL

It is true in life that there are two routes to take: one way leads up, to success and prosperity; and one way leads down to downfall and destruction. I think it's safe to say that most people desire success and prosperity in their lives. The problem is, we often choose the wrong route, believing we'll still manage to arrive at or maintain success, but that just isn't the case.

Today we're going to get to know a King that reigned in Judah for fifty-two years! We're going to learn all about his success and how God was with him, until he chose to take a turn onto the wrong path, and it cost him everything.

Read 2 Chronicles 26:3-5

So right off the bat we learn something very important about success.

In verse 5 it says, As long as he _____, God _____. (Niv)

What we learn from this verse is:

1. Success comes from God.
2. We must continuously seek God to get on the path of success and to remain there.

And this truth is confirmed many times over in the New Testament. Let's take a look at one example:

Read James 4:10

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Humility puts us in position to seek God. When we are humble, we understand, recognize, and believe He is the supreme authority, not us. He has perfect wisdom, not us. He knows what is best, not us.

So, we're more inclined to seek Him out, rather than depend on ourselves or another flawed human being.

Without humility we won't seek God, and He won't give us success.

Read 2 Chronicles 26:6-14

Share three examples of success mentioned in the life of King Uzziah:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Read 2 Chronicles 26:15-21

According to verse 16, what is the sin that led to King Uzziah's downfall? (Niv)

Verse 16 also tells us that the sin crept up in his life after he became what? (Niv)





It seems, Uzziah forgot Who had given him success, and forgot to continue seeking God.

Unfortunately, this is often the case when one becomes too powerful or too successful; instead of maintaining an attitude of humility, they begin to believe they can maintain the road of success in their own strength and therefore according to their own terms.

But God will not be mocked, and He has already determined according to Proverbs 16:18 that pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall.

God's Word is truth and unchanging, so this is a principle you and I can always count on. Pride unchecked and unrepented of will always lead to destruction, and a haughty spirit will always come before a fall.

Sadly, because of Uzziah's pride, God afflicted him with what disease, that he had until the day he died?

Read 2 Chronicles 26:23

After King Uzziah's death did the people speak about all of his success stories? Did they speak about what a great King he was? No, what did the people say? (Niv)

“ _____ ”

When we fail to live a life humbled before God, seeking Him out, and fully surrendered to His ways, we not only forfeit success, but we

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draw all attention away from any previous accomplishments
and we become known for our disgraces and failures.

