

God's Pleasing Kings

JOSIAH

2 Kings 22-23:30, 2 Chronicles 34-35

Repaired the temple.

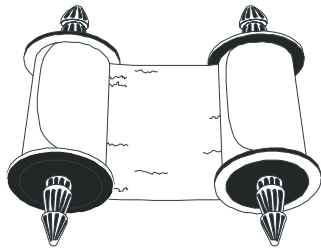
Found, read, and obeyed the book of the law.

Tore down idols.

Destroyed Jeroboam's calves!

Loved God with all his heart.

Walked in the way of David.



2 Kings 23:25

Before him there was no king like him, who turned to the Lord with all his heart, with all his soul, and with all his might, according to all the law of Moses; nor did any like him arise after him.

ASA

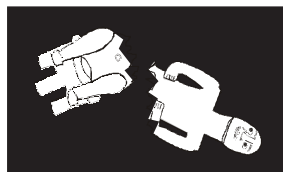
1 Kings 15:8-24, 2 Chronicles 14-16

Destroyed all idols.

Deposed Queen Mother for making an idol.

Repaired the altar of the temple.

Depended on God's help in war.



2 Chronicles 14:11a

Asa cried to the Lord his God, "O Lord, there is no difference for you between helping the mighty and the weak. Help us, O Lord our God, for we rely on you, and in your name we have come against this multitude.

HEZEKIAH

2 Kings 18-20, 2 Chronicles 29-32

Restored the temple.

Held Passover.

Trusted God's protection.

Angels killed 185,000 of the enemy.

Prayed for healing.



Hezekiah was ill, and God told him, through the prophet Isaiah, he was going to die. Hezekiah prayed with all his heart that he might live. God granted him another 15 years. As a sign that this was true, God moved the shadow on the sundial back ten marks. That means God moved the sun backwards!

2 Kings 18:5

He trusted in the Lord the God of Israel; so that there was no one like him among all the kings of Judah after him, or among those who were before him.

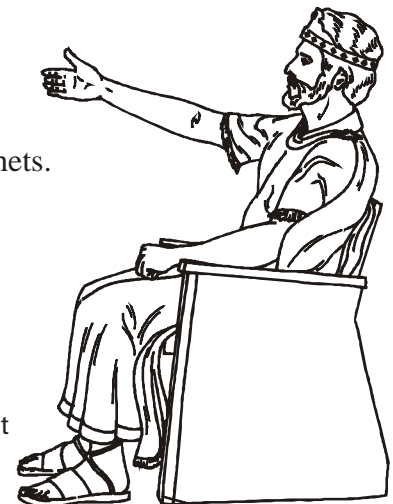
AMAZIAH

2 Kings 14:1-22, 2 Chronicles 25

Obeyed God.

Pursued justice.

Trusted the prophets.



2 Chronicles 25:2

Amaziah did what was right in the sight of the Lord, yet not with a true heart.

JEHOSHAPHAT

1 Kings 22:41-46, 2 Chronicles 17-20

Trusted God's prophets.

Prayed for help in war.

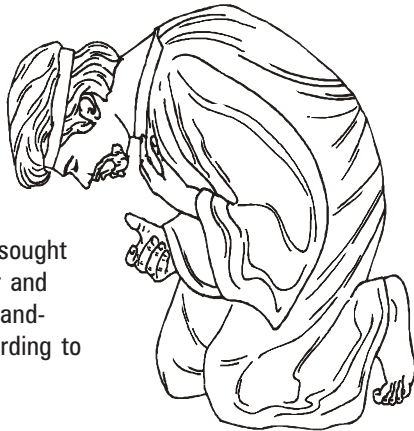
Defended Judah.

Sent teachers of the law to the people.

Appointed honest judges.

2 Chronicles 17:3,4

The Lord was with Jehoshaphat, because he walked in the earlier ways of his father; he did not seek the Baals, but sought the God of his father and walked in his commandments, and not according to the ways of Israel.



UZZIAH

2 Kings 15:1-7, 2 Chronicles 26

Studied God's law.

Built cities.

Enlarged the nation.

Had a mighty army.



2 Chronicles 26:5

Uzziah set himself to seek God in the days of Zechariah, who instructed him in the fear of God; and as long as he sought the Lord, God made him prosper.

JOASH

2 Kings 11:21-12, 2 Chronicles 24

Repaired the temple.

Destroyed idols and their priests.

Joash was hidden from his grandmother, queen Athaliah. He was raised in the temple by the priest Jehoida. He was made King at age 7.

2 Chronicles 24:2

Joash did what was right in the sight of the Lord all the days of the priest Jehoida.



JOTHAM

2 Kings 15:32-38, 2 Chronicles 27

Obedied God and prevailed in war against his enemies.

Built many cities and defenses.

Defeated the Ammonites.

2 Chronicles 27:2a

He did what was right in the sight of the Lord just as his father Uzziah had done.



Good Kings Go Bad

UZZIAH

2 Chronicles 26:16

God gave Uzziah so much success that he became **proud** and arrogant. He thought he could break the rules by offering incense in the temple. God struck Uzziah with leprosy, and he had to give the Kingship to his son.

JOASH

2 Chronicles 24:22

Joash honors God as long as his mentor, Jehoida, is alive, but rejects him after Jehoida's death. He **ungratefully** kills Jehoida's son and the prophet Zechariah. He is eventually killed by his own servants.

JEHOSHAPHAT

2 Chronicles 20:35

Jehoshaphat **allied with the wicked** King Ahab, even arranging for their children to marry.

ASA

2 Chronicles 16:12

When he was ill, Asa depended only on physicians for help. He **did not trust** God to heal him.

AMAZIAH

2 Chronicles 25:2,14

Amaziah **failed to completely remove** the high places from Judah. Eventually he even worshipped the idols of the people he defeated.

What Makes a King Good?

You shall love the Lord with all your heart and all your soul and all your mind.

The Kings that loved God tolerated no other Gods. They destroyed idols and deposed pagan priests.

They worshipped God according to his will, studying his Word to learn how to please Him.

They trusted God to help them in all things, from winning battles to being healed.

They listened to wise men and prophets, and learned from them.

Young People Can Make a Difference.

Both Joash (7) and Josiah (8) were very young when they were made Kings. They had true hearts and withstood all the temptations of others.