

# Amaziah

**Amaziah, whose name means “Yahweh is mighty” succeeded his father Joash when the latter was assassinated.**

**2 Kings 14:1-5** [New King James] *“In the second year of Joash the son of Jehoahaz, king of Israel, Amaziah the son of Joash, king of Judah, became king. He was twenty-five years old when he became king, and he reigned twenty-nine years in Jerusalem. His mother’s name was Jehoaddan of Jerusalem. And he did what was right in the sight of the LORD, yet not like his father David; he did everything as his father Joash had done. However the high places were not taken away, and the people still sacrificed and burned incense on the high places. Now it happened, as soon as the kingdom was established in his hand, that he executed his servants who had murdered his father the king.”*

**Once again violence followed after the new king of Judah started his reign.**

Amaziah mobilised and organised the Judean militia for the re-conquest of Edom, [**2 Chronicles 25:5-6**]. This included paid mercenaries from Israel.

These mercenaries were dismissed in deference to a prophetic warning, [**2 Chronicles 25:7-10**].

The expedition resulted in a complete victory over Edom, [**2 Chronicles 25:11-12**].

In their anger the mercenaries from Israel began to raid the cities of Judah with a great loss of the people of Judah, [**2 Chronicles 2:13**].

**On return from his victory over the Edomites, Amaziah brought back with him some of their gods and set them up in Judah to be their gods, [2 Chronicles 2:14].**

**It is after some great accomplishment that we can become susceptible to sin.**

**In our relaxed confidence we let our defences down and Satan can attack us with all sorts of temptations as we celebrate our success.**

When we win watch out for after mountain peaks come the valleys!

The true Creator God was angry with Amaziah and sent him a warning through a prophet, whom Amaziah threatened to kill, [**2 Chronicles 25:15-16**].

After being ill-advised, Amaziah threatened the king of Israel, Joash, to battle.

Joash warned Amaziah that such a battle was not a good idea, but Amaziah did not heed, [**2 Chronicles 25:17-22**], the result was total defeat for Judah and Amaziah was captured and humiliated in front of his own people, [**2 Chronicles 25:23-24**].

The people rebelled against Amaziah because he had turned away from the true God and introduced idols that had contributed to their defeat by Israel.

**2 Chronicles 25:27-28** [New King James] *“After the time that Amaziah turned away from following the LORD, they made a conspiracy against him in Jerusalem, and he fled to Lachish; but they sent after him to Lachish and killed him there. Then they brought him on horses and buried him with his fathers in the City of Judah.”*

**All the wrong decisions that Amaziah made as king ended by being killed by his own people.**

**Amaziah worshipped the gods of a defeated enemy.**

We can make a similar mistake by worshipping the idols of this world which is ruled by our enemy, Satan, [2 Corinthians 4:4; 1 John 5:19].

**Satan's idols are similar to those that turned Amaziah away from the worship of the true Creator God, wealth, prestige and physical pleasure.**

All these influence our physical nature which is finite and **not** our spiritual nature which is eternal.

The people then chose Uzziah, the young son of Amaziah, to be their king, [2 Chronicles 26:1].