

## Moving from a Half-hearted Faith — Amaziah 2 Chronicles 25

*“Amaziah was twenty-five years old when he became king, and he reigned twenty-nine years in Jerusalem... He did right in the sight of the LORD, yet not with a whole heart”*

### **When I know God’s truth and live it faithfully, I have a whole-hearted faith.**

2 Chronicles 25:3-4 · Deuteronomy 24:16

### **When I trust in my own strength and wisdom rather than God’s, I have a half-hearted faith.**

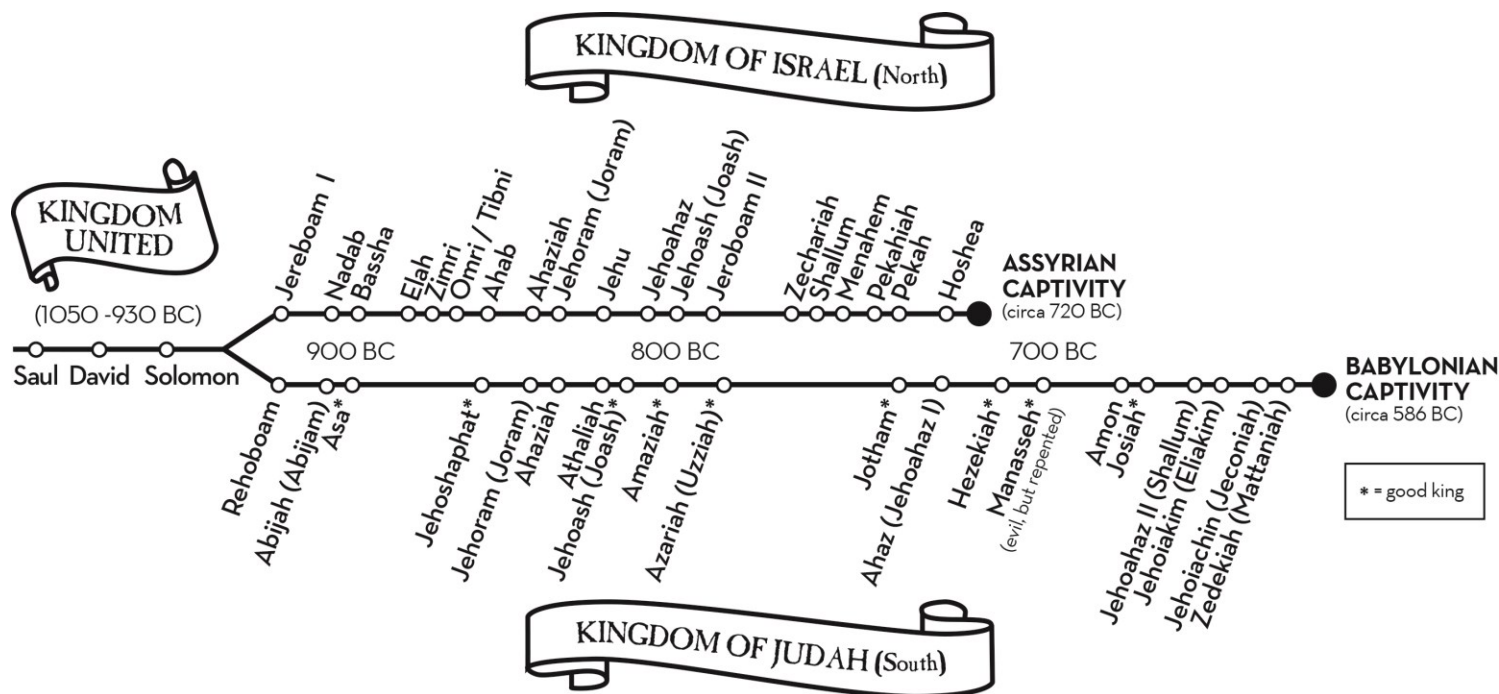
2 Chronicles 25:6-10 · Jeremiah 9:23-24

- **Signs of a half-hearted faith when I trust in:**
  - My wisdom rather than God’s wisdom (v.6, 11-12) [consequences of unwise decisions]
  - My power rather than God’s power (v.7)
  - My riches rather than God’s riches (v.9)
- **Move from a half-hearted faith to a whole-heart when I:**
  - Trust in God’s wisdom when I listen to godly counsel (v.7) *“But a man of God came to him saying...”*
  - Trust in God’s power to overcome challenges of life (v.8) *“God has power to help...”*
  - Trust in God’s riches when my resources are lost (v.9) *“The Lord has much more to give you than this.”*

### **When I compromise my worship and beliefs about God, I move to an empty-hearted faith.**

2 Chronicles 25:14-28

- **Signs of an empty-hearted faith:**
  - When my priorities about worship replace God’s priorities (v.14) *“he brought the gods of the sons of Seir, set them up as his gods, bowed down before them and burned incense to them”*
  - When what I believe about God is changed by what my culture says about God (v.15) *“Why have you sought the gods of the people who have not delivered their own people from your hand?”*
  - When I reject the Word of God that confronts me in my sin (v.16) *“...the king said to him, ‘Have we appointed you a royal counselor? Stop!’ ... Then the prophet stopped and said, ‘I know that God has planned to destroy you, because you have done this and have not listened to my counsel.’”*
- **Move from an empty-hearted faith to a whole-hearted faith:**
  - Confess the sin of pride (v.19) *“And your heart has become proud in boasting”*
  - Allow God’s corrective discipline to return to a whole-hearted faith in Him (v.19-20) *“why should you provoke trouble so that you, even you, would fall and Judah with you?” But Amaziah would not listen, for it was from God, that He might deliver them into the hand of Joash because they had sought the gods of Edom”*



## DIGGING DEEPER + LIFEGROUP DISCUSSION:

How much should you love God according to Matthew 22:37, 38?

Why is it important to gather together in community and worship according to Hebrews 10:23-25? What are some in “the habit” of doing? From this passage, who is the focus of your love when you gather? How well are you doing in this area?

One of the problems with King Amaziah was his failure to listen to the wisdom of godly people as in 2 Chronicles 25:15, 16. It is important we listen to the people God brings into our lives to give us His wisdom.

The reason we need godly wisdom is because we can be deceived, like Adam and Eve. How does Satan try to deceive us according to 2 Corinthians 11:3-4? How does Satan want us to think about Jesus? There are many “preaching” false ideas. Where have you experienced that in your life or seen evidence in our society?

**Because some of you may have missed it last week, I include the following again.**

One of my professors, Gordon MacDonald offers six kinds of friends we all may need. Amaziah rejected the counsel from a godly man. We need that counsel. Who in your life helps fulfill each of these important roles for you? How can you help someone else? I have included scripture where that kind of wisdom and encouragement was used in the Bible.

- **The Sponsor:** A mentor who takes up the role for your growth. Mordecai was Esther’s sponsor. Esther 4:13-14
- **The Affirmer:** One who comes along side to inspire and encourage. 1 Thessalonians 1:7 · Philemon 5
- **The Rebuker:** A truth teller who bruises us with corrective talk. Proverbs 27:5-6, Luke 22:61 · John 21:22
- **The Intercessor:** A faithful prayer warrior on our behalf. Luke 22:31-32
- **The Partner:** One who helps carry the “load” and responsibility. Philippians 2:25, Romans 16:3,9 · 2 Corinthians 8:23
- **The Pastor:** One who genuinely cares with compassion. 2 Timothy 1:15-18 · 1 Timothy 1:5

## NEXT STEPS:

1. **Attend the Refreshing Your Marriage Conference at Calvary next weekend, February 24 – 25, to maintain a whole-hearted love in your marriage.** Refreshing Your Marriage is a two-day conference that offers a yearly tune-up for your marriage, giving you valuable tools and perspective to keep your relationship growing in the right direction. Come hear from world-renowned authors, speakers, and experts on marriage and family through a fun and encouraging experience. **Use promo code TOGETHER** for discounted pricing of \$75/couple when registering at [calvarylife.org/rym](http://calvarylife.org/rym)
2. **Join a LifeGroup to keep a whole-hearted faith with other people.** LifeGroups are the primary place, beyond Sunday worship, where we actively engage in the life and purpose of our church: to connect, grow, and reach. LifeGroups are ongoing small group communities that gather together throughout the week to **CONNECT** in a smaller setting, **GROW** together in our faith, and **REACH** out together to our community. Learn more at the Connection Point in the Lobby or visit [calvarylife.org/lifegroups](http://calvarylife.org/lifegroups)
3. **Be mentored by another Christian.** One-on-one mentoring and discipleship is a great resource for growing in your faith. Discipleship is the lifelong process of accepting God’s invitation to grow up – to mature and become like Jesus. Following Jesus is a process and a journey, as Jesus makes your heart, attitude, behavior, mind and relationships like His. Learn more at [calvarylife.org/discipleship](http://calvarylife.org/discipleship)



**CALVARY**  
CHURCH

CONNECT. GROW. REACH  
1010 N. Tustin Ave. | Santa Ana | CA

phn | 714.973.4800  
web | [calvarylife.org](http://calvarylife.org)