### 2 Chronicles

## Chapter 28

1Ahaz was 25 years old when he started his reign, and he reigned in JeruSalem for 16 years. 2He didn’t do what was upright before Jehovah as did his ancestor David; rather, he went the way of the kings of IsraEl and made carved images, 3offering sacrifices to them in the Valley of the Sons of Hinnom.  
  
He also [offered] his children in fire, in the same disgusting way as the nations that Jehovah had destroyed from in front of IsraEl had once done! 4He burned incense on the high places, on roofs, and under every tree in the woods.  
  
5As a result, his God Jehovah handed him over to the king of Syria, who attacked him and carried off many prisoners to Damascus.  
  
He also allowed the king of IsraEl to bring a great calamity upon him; 6for [King] PekAh (son of RemaliAh), the king of IsraEl, killed 120,000 of his strong, mighty men (all on the same day); which happened because they had left Jehovah the God of their ancestors.  
  
7Then he executed ZechRi (the great man of Ephraim), MaAsa (the king’s son), EzriKan (who was in charge of the king’s palace), and ElKana (the king’s right-hand man); 8and he carried off 300,000 women and children, along with everything of value, to Samaria.  
  
  
9Now, there was a Prophet of Jehovah in Samaria whose name was Obed; and when the army of IsraEl was returning to Samaria, he went out to meet them and said:  
  
 ‘{Look!} The reason why these people have been given into your hands is because Jehovah the God of your ancestors is angry with Judah!  
  
 ‘But you have killed them in anger, and [news of this] has reached into the heavens!  
  
 10‘Also, you’re now saying that the sons of Judah and JeruSalem can be sold as male and female slaves... But {Look!} here I am among you to testify about this before your God Jehovah, 11so listen to me!  
  
 ‘Return your brothers whom you’ve taken as captives; because, now the rage of Jehovah is upon you!’  
  
12Well thereafter, the leaders of Ephraim (AzariAh son of JoHanan, BarachiAh son of MoSolamOth, EzekiAs son of SelLem, and AmasiAh son of ElDai) said to those who were returning from the war:  
  
 13‘There’s no way that we’ll allow you to bring these captives to us, because that would bring a sin against Jehovah upon us... By talking this way, you’re trying to add to our sins and our ignorance!  
  
 ‘For we’re already guilty of great sins, and the anger of Jehovah is already upon IsraEl.’  
  
14As a result, they released the captured warriors and laid all the loot they’d taken before the rulers of the gathering. 15Then the ones whose names were called out took the captives and covered those who were naked with clothing from the loot, tied sandals on their feet, and gave them food to eat and something to clean themselves with.  
  
16Thereafter, they mounted all those who were weak upon animals and took them to JeriCho and to The City of Palms, along with the rest of their brothers... Then [IsraEl returned] to Samaria.  
  
  
17Well, later on, King Ahaz [of Judah] sent for the king of Assyria and asked him for aid, because the Edomites had attacked Judah and carried off captives. 18Then the Philistines attacked his cities in the plains and to the south of Judah, capturing BethSamus, everything in the Temple of Jehovah and in the king’s palace, and all the governors.  
  
So they handed AiLon, GadEron, SoChor and its surrounding towns, ThamNa and its surrounding towns, and GamZo and its surrounding towns over to their king, and they started living there!  
  
19For Jehovah was humbling Judah because their king (Ahaz) had turned away from Him.  
  
  
20Then King Tiglath-Pileser [III] of Assyria came to his aid. 21So Ahaz took the things in the Temple of Jehovah, the things in his palace, and the things that belonged to his governors, and gave it all to the king of Assyria… Not for his help, 22but to keep him from attacking them!  
  
Well, King Ahaz continued in his course of [rebellion] against Jehovah; for he then said:  
  
 ‘I will [ask for help] from the gods of Damascus.’  
  
...[Yes, the gods of the people] who were overpowering him!  
  
23[And he said]:  
  
 ‘Since the gods of the king of Syria are making them strong, I will offer sacrifices to them and they’ll help me also.’  
  
Well, this became a trap to him and to all IsraEl.  
  
24Then Ahaz took everything out of the Temple of Jehovah, cut it all to pieces, and locked the Temple doors! And thereafter, he built altars in every city and on every corner of JeruSalem, 25and he erected high places in all the cities of Judah to burn incense to foreign gods, which made Jehovah (the God of their ancestors) very angry.  
  
26{Look!} The rest of the things that he said and did are written in the scrolls of the kings of Judah and IsraEl. 27Then Ahaz went to sleep with his ancestors, and they buried him in a tomb in the City of David… But they didn’t bury him in the tombs of the kings of IsraEl.  
  
Then his son HezekiAh became king in his place.