

God's Calling Requirements

Part 21

“1 Then all the people of Judah took Uzziah, who was sixteen years old, and made him king in the room of his father Amaziah. 2 He built Eloth, and restored it to Judah, after that the king slept with his fathers. 3 Sixteen years old was Uzziah when he began to reign, and he reigned fifty and two years in Jerusalem. His mother's name also was Jecoliah of Jerusalem. 4 And he did that which was right in the sight of the LORD, according to all that his father Amaziah did. 5 And he sought God in the days of Zechariah, who had understanding in the visions of God: and as long as he sought the LORD, God made him to prosper. 6 And he went forth and warred against the Philistines, and brake down the wall of Gath, and the wall of Jabneh, and the wall of Ashdod, and built cities about Ashdod, and among the Philistines. 7 And God helped him against the Philistines, and against the Arabians that dwelt in Gurbaal, and the Mehunims. 8 And the Ammonites gave gifts to Uzziah: and his name spread abroad even to the entering in of Egypt; for he strengthened himself exceedingly. 9 Moreover Uzziah built towers in Jerusalem at the corner gate, and at the valley gate, and at the turning of the wall, and fortified them. 10 Also he built towers in the desert, and digged many wells: for he had much cattle, both in the low country, and in the plains: husbandmen also, and vine dressers in the mountains, and in Carmel: for he loved husbandry. 11 Moreover Uzziah had an host of fighting men, that went out to war by bands, according to the number of their account by the hand of Jeiel the scribe and Maaseiah the ruler, under the hand of Hananiah, one of the king's captains. 12 The whole number of the chief of the fathers of the mighty men of valour were two thousand and six hundred. 13 And under their hand was an army, three hundred thousand and seven thousand and five hundred, that made war with mighty power, to help the king against the enemy. 14 And Uzziah prepared for them throughout all the host shields, and spears, and helmets, and habergeons, and bows, and slings to cast stones. 15 And he made in Jerusalem engines, invented by cunning men, to be on the towers and upon the bulwarks, to shoot arrows and great stones withal. And his name spread far abroad; for he was marvellously helped, till he was strong. 16 But when he was strong, his heart was lifted up to his destruction: for he transgressed against the LORD his God, and went into the temple of the LORD to burn incense upon the altar of incense. 17 And Azariah the priest went in after him, and with him fourscore priests of the LORD, that were valiant men: 18 And they withstood Uzziah the king, and said unto him, It appertaineth not unto thee, Uzziah, to burn incense unto the LORD, but to the priests the sons of Aaron, that are consecrated to burn incense: go out of the sanctuary; for thou hast trespassed; neither shall it be for thine honour from the LORD God. 19 Then Uzziah was wroth, and had a censer in his hand to burn incense: and while he was wroth with the priests, the leprosy even rose up in his forehead before the priests in the house of the LORD, from beside the incense altar. 20 And Azariah the chief priest, and all the priests, looked upon him, and, behold, he was leprous in his forehead, and they thrust him out from thence; yea, himself hasted also to go out, because the LORD had smitten him. 21 And Uzziah the king was a leper unto the day of his death, and dwelt in a several house, being a leper; for he was cut off from the house of the LORD: and Jotham his son was over the king's house, judging the people of the land. 22 Now the rest of the acts of Uzziah, first and last, did Isaiah the prophet, the son of Amoz, write. 23 So Uzziah slept with his fathers, and they buried him with his fathers in the field of the burial which belonged to the kings; for they said, He is a leper: and Jotham his son reigned in his stead.” (2 Chronicles 26:1-23)

From the life of King Uzziah there are important lessons you will learn to understand the requirements of how you achieve and respond to the calling of God in your life.

1. Don't look down on yourself because you are young and don't let others look down on you because your age: “3 Sixteen years old was Uzziah when he began to reign, and he reigned fifty and two years in Jerusalem.” (2 Chronicles 26:3) Paul said to Timothy, ***“Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity.” (1 Timothy 4:12 KJV)*** Your age is not a problem but your obedience and commitment to God is of more importance and will bring the difference.

2. Restore things that was lost and taken by the enemy: “2 He built Eloth, and restored it to Judah, after that the king slept with his fathers.” (2 Chronicles 26:2) Certain things the Lord will call you to work with Him and to restore it back to His church. Be a restorer, ***“Your people will rebuild the ancient ruins and will raise up the age-old foundations; you will be called Repairer of Broken Walls, Restorer of Streets with Dwellings.” (Isaiah 58:12)***

3. Do what is right in the sight of the Lord: “4 And he did that which was right in the sight of the LORD, according to all that his father Amaziah did.” (2 Chronicles 26:4) Uzziah kept up the pure worship of the true God. Start to seek God and do what is right in the sight of the Lord. The Lord will reveal to you new things, and once He is revealing that to you then starts to obey and do what is right in His sight.

4- Get instructed with God's word from God's teachers: “5 And he sought God in the days of Zechariah, who had understanding in the visions of God: and as long as he sought the LORD, God made him to prosper.” (2 Chronicles 26:5) Since Zechariah had understanding in the vision of God and the law of God he imparted all that into the life of Uzziah. You need to be taught and nurtured with God's word. The teachers of the church who will impart to you the law of God and ways of God so you will be able to grasp what is going on around you and in your life. The Bible studies that Zechariah was teaching to Uzziah was the way for him to seek God and to know from Him what he needs to do; ***and as long as he sought the LORD, God made him to prosper.*** Prosperity followed the life of Uzziah as long as he was seeking and obeying the instructions given to him. The same will be to you; the more that you seek God and obey Him then the more you will prosper.

5- Apply what you learn and instructed with in doing the good work of God: “For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.” (Ephesians 2:10) Uzziah did marvelous things to the Lord as the Scriptures informed us. Everyone when God calls to serve Him, the Lord had already prepared good works that need to be fulfilled and done.

6- Go forward and fight the good fight for God: Uzziah went forth and fought the good fight against the enemies of God ***“6 And he went forth and warred against the Philistines, and brake down the wall of Gath, and the wall of Jabneh, and the wall of Ashdod, and built cities about Ashdod, and among the Philistines.” (2 Chronicles 26:6)*** You need to go forward in respond to the commandments of Jesus to go and make disciples in ***Matthew 28:19-20 “Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: 20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have***

commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.” And you need to persevere and fight the good fight for the Lord. Paul said, **“I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith.” (2Timothy 4:7)**

7- Build good things for God: “6 And he went forth and warred against the Philistines, and brake down the wall of Gath, and the wall of Jabneh, and the wall of Ashdod, and built cities about Ashdod, and among the Philistines.” (2 Chronicles 26:6) Uzziah built new cities for God. In the same way God had called you to build new things for him.

8- Receive God’s help: “7 And God helped him against the Philistines, and against the Arabians that dwelt in Gurbaal, and the Mehunims.” (2 Chronicles 26:7) When you respond in such way to God’s call then ultimately will find God helping you and aiding you in your walk and mission for God. It is your right, privilege and part of your sincere faith to receive help from God when you obey Him.

9- Strengthen yourself and receive gifts and honor: “8 And the Ammonites gave gifts to Uzziah: and his name spread abroad even to the entering in of Egypt; for he strengthened himself exceedingly.” (2 Chronicles 26:8) God used the Ammonites to give gifts to Uzziah out of their reverence to Uzziah for his fame was spread abroad and he strengthened himself. God will allow such things to happen in your life in order not to promote you but to promote his work and His kingdom business. Therefore don’t be proud if you receive privileges, but the more you need to need to humble down, because what you are receiving from God is promote His work.

10- Be a watchman and build a watchman ministry: “9 Moreover Uzziah built towers in Jerusalem at the corner gate, and at the valley gate, and at the turning of the wall, and fortified them. 10 Also he built towers in the desert,” (2 Chronicles 26:9) The tower was to notice the movement of the enemy and to get an early notice and warning. Work with God to build up a watchman ministry; watchmen and watchwomen to pray and to do the needed work, **“6 I have set watchmen upon thy walls, O Jerusalem, which shall never hold their peace day nor night: ye that make mention of the LORD, keep not silence, 7 And give him no rest, till he establish, and till he make Jerusalem a praise in the earth.” (Isaiah 62:6-7)** Watch the movement of the enemy and report it to the church leadership so that full measure will be taken to combat sin and to deal properly with those who are involved with.

11- Be industrious and good steward of what God had giving you: “10 Also he built towers in the desert, and digged many wells: for he had much cattle, both in the low country, and in the plains: husbandmen also, and vine dressers in the mountains, and in Carmel: for he loved husbandry.” (2 Chronicles 26:10) Uzziah used the resources of the land to reproduce living. He digged many wells to get water to water his farms. Husbandry and other agricultural resources are good source to support your living and the people with you. Be good steward and use all the resources wisely to support your living and the ministry of God.

12- Prepare and train others with you to do the work of God: “11 Moreover Uzziah had an host of fighting men, that went out to war by bands, according to the number of their account by the hand of Jeiel the scribe and Maaseiah the ruler, under the hand of Hananiah, one of the king's captains. 12 The whole number of the chief of the fathers of the mighty men of valour were two thousand and six hundred. 13 And under their hand was an

army, three hundred thousand and seven thousand and five hundred, that made war with mighty power, to help the king against the enemy. 14 And Uzziah prepared for them throughout all the host shields, and spears, and helmets, and habergeons, and bows, and slings to cast stones.” (2 Chronicles 26:11-14) Uzziah had big, strong and well equipped army. You need to make new disciples and train them to be workers and to fight the good fight and do God’s service with you. Written and recorded teaching materials should be ready and prepared for the new disciples and workers to read study and apply.

13- Invent useful things to promote the work of God and make it more effective and fruitful: “15 And he made in Jerusalem engines, invented by cunning men, to be on the towers and upon the bulwarks, to shoot arrows and great stones withal. And his name spread far abroad; for he was marvellously helped, till he was strong.” (2 Chronicles 26:15) Uzziah used his mind and the mind of his people to invent new machines in order to be used to reach cities and conquer them. God gives you mind and he wants you to use it to invent new things to bring His word to new places and cities in the world.

14- Don’t give way to pride to rise up in your heart and prevail in your life: “And his name spread far abroad; for he was marvellously helped, till he was strong. 16 But when he was strong, his heart was lifted up to his destruction: for he transgressed against the LORD his God, and went into the temple of the LORD to burn incense upon the altar of incense.” (2 Chronicles 26:15-16) Uzziah when the Lord granted him success his heart got infected with pride and that caused him his own destruction. The pride of Uzziah led him to sin against God when he **went into the temple of the LORD to burn incense upon the altar of incense.** The Lord would give you success and He will allow miracles and wonders will happen and come true in your life and your ministry, but you still need to be humble and guard your heart against any pride. Because pride will lead you to sin against God, and would push you to do sin against His church. The pride of Uzziah led him to do the following:

A- He interfered and tried to do something that he should not do, when he **went into the temple of the LORD to burn incense upon the altar of incense.** Burning incense is a ministry and service that pertain exclusively for Aaron the priest and his descendants. **“7 And Aaron shall burn thereon sweet incense every morning: when he dresseth the lamps, he shall burn incense upon it. (Exodus. 30:7) “10 They shall teach Jacob thy judgments, and Israel thy law: they shall put incense before thee, and whole burnt sacrifice upon thine altar.” (Deuteronomy 33:10) “13 The sons of Amram; Aaron and Moses: and Aaron was separated, that he should sanctify the most holy things, he and his sons for ever, to burn incense before the LORD, to minister unto him, and to bless in his name for ever.” (1Chronicles 23:13)** Don’t allow your pride to lead you to do something that you should not do. Uzziah possibly wanted to do that because he wanted to imitate other wicked kings, like what Jeroboam did, **“1 And, behold, there came a man of God out of Judah by the word of the LORD unto Bethel: and Jeroboam stood by the altar to burn incense.” (1Kings 13:1)** Uzziah was taught by Zechariah that he should not do such things, **“5 He sought God during the days of Zechariah, who instructed him in the fear of God. As long as he sought the LORD, God gave him success.” (2Chronicles 26:5 NIV)** That is why he was accountable to the sin that he did. When you are taught and instructed about certain teaching, but you still disobey and do wrong, then God sure will discipline you and deal with you properly.

B- He fought with the priests and tried to use force against them to do what he wanted: **“18 And they withstood Uzziah the king, and said unto him, It appertaineth not unto thee, Uzziah, to burn incense unto the LORD, but to the priests the sons of Aaron, that are consecrated to burn incense: go out of the sanctuary; for thou hast trespassed; neither shall it be for thine honour from the LORD God. 19 Then Uzziah was wroth, and had a censer in his hand to burn incense: and while he was wroth with the priests, the leprosy even rose up in his forehead before the priests in the house of the LORD, from beside the incense altar. 20 And Azariah the chief priest, and all the priests, looked upon him, and, behold, he was leprous in his forehead, and they thrust him out from thence; yea, himself hasted also to go out, because the LORD had smitten him.” (2 Chronicles 26:18-20)** The priests tried to explain to him that he should not interfere with that because that pertain **to the priests the sons of Aaron, that are consecrated to burn incense:** they explained to him that what he is doing is sin against God and against His church; they told him, **go out of the sanctuary; for thou hast trespassed; neither shall it be for thine honour from the LORD God.** But instead that he will humble down and stop he got angry and fought against the priest of the temple, **19 Then Uzziah was wroth, and had a censer in his hand to burn incense:** He wanted to fight with the priest and up to the point that the Lord should interfere to protect His temple and the priests as He afflicted him with leprosy in his forehead, **“and while he was wroth with the priests, the leprosy even rose up in his forehead before the priests in the house of the LORD, from beside the incense altar. 20 And Azariah the chief priest, and all the priests, looked upon him, and, behold, he was leprous in his forehead, and they thrust him out from thence; yea, himself hasted also to go out, because the LORD had smitten him.”** God fought to protect His priests and His church. He supported the firm stand of the priest by inflicting Uzziah with leprosy in his forehead. When you are corrected, rebuked or admonished, do not fight with the church and the leaders of the church who are correcting you; God will not allow you to prevail against the discipline that you deserved to the sins that you did.

15- Repent and accept God’s discipline: **“21 And Uzziah the king was a leper unto the day of his death, and dwelt in a several house, being a leper; for he was cut off from the house of the LORD: and Jotham his son was over the king’s house, judging the people of the land.” (2 Chronicles 26:21)** Uzziah was cut off from the house of God and lived in a separate house. His position and ministry was given to Jotham his son. Most probably Uzziah got a lesson from what had happened, knew his sin and repented, for he stayed in his separate house until he died and without doing any further threat or trying to interfere neither with the priests nor with the Temple, therefore when he died the word of God says that he slept with his fathers and buried with his fathers, **23 So Uzziah slept with his fathers, and they buried him with his fathers in the field of the burial which belonged to the kings; for they said, He is a leper: and Jotham his son reigned in his stead.” (2 Chronicles 26:23)** So Uzziah with his attitude of repentance and his submission to God’s will to live in separate house was not cut from his people, but assured of his salvation and gathered to his people as he was slept and buried with his fathers. Your submission to God’s discipline, will assure to you your salvation, as well as God’s blessings to your family and your descendants.

16- Let your life’s achievement and repentance, be a good example to your children: **“1 Jotham was twenty and five years old when he began to reign, and he reigned sixteen* years in Jerusalem. His mother’s name also was Jerushah, the daughter of Zadok. 2 And he did that which was right in the sight of the LORD, according to all that his father Uzziah did: howbeit he entered not into the temple of the LORD.” (2Chronicles 27:1-2)** Jotham the son of

Uzziah followed the steps of his father; **he did that which was right in the sight of the LORD, according to all that his father Uzziah did: howbeit he entered not into the temple of the LORD.** Jotham did well like his father, but he avoid totally the sin of his father. He did the following good things: **“3 He built the high gate of the house of the LORD, and on the wall of Ophel he built much. 4 Moreover he built cities in the mountains of Judah, and in the forests he built castles and towers. 5 He fought also with the king of the Ammonites, and prevailed against them. And the children of Ammon gave him the same year an hundred talents of silver, and ten thousand measures of wheat, and ten thousand of barley. So much did the children of Ammon pay unto him, both the second year, and the third. 6 So Jotham became mighty, because he prepared his ways before the LORD his God.” (2 Chronicles 27:3-6)** When you repent and go in God’s ways, the Lord shall bless your children after you.

My dear and beloved: God’s word is what we need today to abide and to apply. As you heard the message, now is the time for you to reflect what you hear in your life and see your sins and your wrong doings and are the things that you need to repent, correct yourself and amend your ways.

Today confess and renounce all your sins to God and ask him to forgive you and have mercy on you.

God wants you to come back and to be in the center of His will so that His good plan for you and for your children will come true, and the blessings of Go will go to your children and descendants.

Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus, who died on the cross for my sins and rose from the death to give me eternal life.

Lord I repent from the following sins _____

Lord forgive me and have mercy on me and my family and my descendent.

Lord I commit myself to do in accordance to your will and commands. I will prepare myself and walk in accordance to the instruction that I received from your word and the people that you called to teach me.

Lord I commit myself to use wisely the resources that you gave me and to be a good example for my children to follow your steps.

Lord I pray for all my brothers and Sisters who had repented and renounced their sins Lord have mercy on them and restore them back to the good plan that you have for them. Lord provide all their needs, heal the sick, comfort those who are weak and sustain them with your mercy and grace.

I thank you and praise for your word that speaks to us and direct us to go back to your ways and to live in the truth. Lord we pray for the church to grow. We pray for more evangelism and for more souls to be harvested. Lord we pray for more Bible studies to be planted. Lord we pray that our life testimony will be a good testimony to attract others to follow you. Lord bless us and enlarge our territory, let your hand be with us and free us from harm so that we will not feel pain. May the grace of the Lord Jesus and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all in Jesus name, Amen.

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