

Cover to Cover: (King Ahaz, 2 Chr 28/2 Ki 16)

Sept 2

Review: Kings and Chronicles

Context: Ahaz is known as one of the most wicked kings in Judah's history. He therefore serves as a great warning to us. He followed two good kings but did not walk in their footsteps. The prophets Isaiah and Micah have much to speak into his wickedness.

First, a.m. Sermon Recap:

- What are some reasons for Kings/Chronicles being in the Bible?
- Who was Jotham? On a scale of 1 to 10 how good or bad a king was he?
- Reflect upon Godly/ungodly influences in our lives.
- What does it look like to wholeheartedly follow the Lord?
- What does it mean to "order our ways before the Lord"?

Read: 2 Chr 28

Questions:

- Vv. 1–2- What evaluation is given of Ahaz? Does anything stand out to you? What are we to make of it/ him?
- Vv. 3–4- What further evaluation are we given? What words and actions tip us off to just how idolatrous he was? Who had he become like (see also Ps 155:8)?
- Vv. 8–17- How is Judah judged for their sin? How, through the prophet Oded, is the nation also shown mercy? How is this judgement intermingled with mercy true of when the Lord disciplines us?
- How is Israel's response uncharacteristic? V. 13- What is the reason they released the captives?
- Under Ahaz Judah continued to know military defeats because of their unfaithfulness to the Covenant. In vv. 16–18,

what further troubles did they experience? In v. 19 what is the reason? What stands out?

- The Lord's discipline should cause us to seek _____. Quite the opposite, where did Ahaz look for military help (v. 20– 1)? How did this plan backfire? (v. 21). How will our every attempt to find salvation outside of the Lord fail? Can you share any example?
- Why did this tribute "not help him"?
- Vv. 22–23- Through this discipline what foolish thing did Ahaz actually do? (see 2 Ki 16 for added context of his trip to view the gods who "had defeated" his armies).
- V. 23b- What effect did all of this have? How will this always be so? Can you share any examples of warning of people who have met similar ends?
- Vv. 24–5- How are these acts the epitome of Ahaz' idolatrous wickedness? What words tip us off to this?
- V. 27- When Ahaz died, why do you think he was not buried among the kings by the people?
- Throughout this chapter we have explored many details of his reign, which all culminate to provide a dire warning to us today. How would you summarize the warning of Ahaz? How might this speak sober judgement to Church or society today?

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