
2CHRONICLES 27: 1 Jotham was twenty-five years old when he began to reign; and he reigned sixteen years in Jerusalem: and his mother's name was Jerushah the daughter of Zadok.

Jotham succeeds his father Uzziah, and reigns well, 2Chr 27:1, 2Chr 27:2. His buildings, 2Chr 27:3, 2Chr 27:4. His successful wars, 2Chr 27:5, 2Chr 27:6. General account of his acts, reign, and death, 2Chr 27:7-9.

2CHRONICLES 27: 2 He did that which was right in the eyes of the LORD, according to all that his father Uzziah had done: however he didn't enter into the LORD's temple. The people still did corruptly.

Verse 2

He entered not into the temple - He copied his father's conduct as far as it was constitutional; and avoided his transgression. See the preceding chapter, 2 Chronicles 26 (note).

2CHRONICLES 27: 3 He built the upper gate of the LORD's house, and on the wall of Ophel he built much.

Verse 3

On the wall of Ophel - The wall, says the Targum, of the interior palace. Ophel was some part of the wall of Jerusalem, that was most pregnable, and therefore Jotham fortified it in a particular manner.

2CHRONICLES 27: 4 Moreover he built cities in the hill country of Judah, and in the forests he built castles and towers.

Verse 4

Castles and towers - These he built for the protection of the country people against marauders.

2CHRONICLES 27: 5 He fought also with the king of the children of Ammon, and prevailed against them. The children of Ammon gave him the same year one hundred talents of silver, and ten thousand measures of wheat, and ten thousand of barley. The children of Ammon gave that much to him in the second year also, and in the third.

Verse 5

He fought also with - the Ammonites - We find here that he brought them under a heavy tribute for three years; but whether this was the effect of his prevailing against them, is not so evident. Some think that they paid this tribute for three years, and then revolted; that, in consequence, he attacked them, and their utter subjection was the result.

2CHRONICLES 27: 6 So Jotham became mighty, because he ordered his ways before the LORD his God.

2CHRONICLES 27: 7 Now the rest of the acts of Jotham, and all his wars, and his ways, behold, they are written in the book of the kings of Israel and Judah.

Verse 7

The rest of the acts of Jotham, and all his wars, and his ways - It was in his days, according to 2Kgs 15:37, that Rezin king of Syria, and Pekah king of Israel, began to cut Judah short. See the notes on 2Kgs 15:36, 2Kgs 15:37.

Written in the book of the kings, etc. - There is not so much found in the books of Kings which we have now, as in this place of the Chronicles. In both places we have abridged accounts only: the larger histories have long been lost. The reign of Jotham was properly the last politically prosperous reign among the Jews. Hezekiah and Josiah did much to preserve the Divine worship; but Judah continued to be cut short, till at last it was wholly ruined.

2CHRONICLES 27: 8 He was five and twenty years old when he began to reign, and reigned sixteen years in Jerusalem.

2CHRONICLES 27: 9 Jotham slept with his fathers, and they buried him in the city of David: and Ahaz his son reigned in his place.
