

# Fascinating Stories of Forgotten Lives Rediscovering Some Old Testament Characters

Uzziah: The Leader Who Became a Loser

2 CHRONICLES 26:1–21



## The Heart of the Matter

No matter how gifted we may be, no matter how valuable others may think we are, we have no right to take God's name lightly, eclipse His glory, or rob Him of praise. As soon as we do that, the movement of God halts and a monument to our glory is erected. Regrettably, these selfish monuments tend to crash to the ground quickly, often taking us with them. Tragically, King Uzziah didn't learn well enough what it meant to fear and worship God. He had a good start. He walked humbly with God, pursued the disciplines of godly living, and sought wise counsel. But when he achieved military prowess and gained notoriety, his heart became proud. He built monuments to himself. Then his fear of God waned, and he sinned against Him. And Uzziah's sin had lifelong consequences.



## Discovering the Way

### 1. Everything Depends on Who Gets Glory (Isaiah 42:5–8)

When Christians focus on God and give Him honor, adoration, and admiration, true success can be achieved.

### 2. Pride Results in Disaster (2 Chronicles 26:1–20)

When King Uzziah hit the pinnacle of his power and fame, pride invaded his heart and he forgot God.

### 3. The Consequences of Sin Should Result in Repentance (2 Chronicles 26:21–23)

King Uzziah lived the rest of his days as a leper, separated from his people, his kingdom, and God's house. And when he died, he was buried apart from other kings because he was a leper.

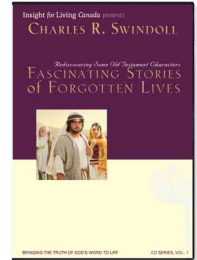


## Starting Your Journey

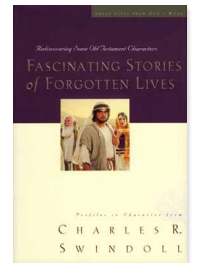
Watch for these signs of ministry slippage: when greater battles are fought within than without; when more attention is directed to the leader than to the Lord; when God's help is nice but not absolutely essential for survival; when worthwhile reproofs are resisted rather than received; and when the consequences of sin are ignored rather than feared.



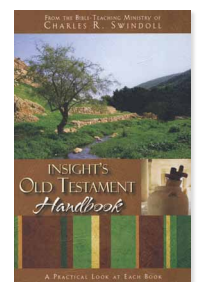
## Tools for Digging Deeper



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