

2 Chronicles 26:5

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 prosper.

Seek the Lord in ALL things and see what a great reward you will get, just as we read in verse 5 here in **2 Chronicles 26**.

We have all gone through various storms in our lives, and when we do, even though they are tough, they are also great at the same time, because they draw us closer to the Lord when we call out to Him.

Think of the story of Peter walking on the water with Jesus. We tend to focus on the fact that Peter took his eyes off of Jesus and started to sink, but we overlook an even bigger thing, and that is that Peter was so close to the Lord while he was out there in the midst of the storm, that all Jesus just had to do was reach out and grab Peter's hand, instead of running around on the water to get to Peter to save him.

† **Matthew 14:31** *And immediately Jesus stretched out His hand and caught him, and said to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?"*

So, we go through those storms in life, and we seek the Lord, and as we do, the Lord gets us through them. Just think of the last storm you went through; didn't you make it through that storm, and didn't you make it because the Lord was with you as you sought Him? And the end result is that we will eventually prosper through the storm. "*as long as he sought the LORD, God made him prosper.*" Not that you will become rich, but your relationship with the Lord will become richer.

But thinking of this, we must be careful when we do, because we can end up doing verse 16 in **2 Chronicles 26**

† **2 Chronicles 26:16** *But when he was strong his heart was lifted up, to his destruction, for he transgressed against the LORD his God by entering the temple of the LORD to burn incense on the altar of incense.*

Simply put, we can get high and haughty thinking we are all that because we have so much from the Lord, even getting to the point where we can think that we have all these things because of what we did, forgetting what the Lord has done in our lives. Or we can get so haughty that we think we are better than others, looking down on them because we think that we are stronger in the Lord than they are, and we turn to our flesh, as our hearts become lifted up. "*he was strong his heart was lifted up*" the end results will be to our "*destruction*" for we have "*transgressed against the LORD.*"

That is what happened to king Uzziah here in today's verse.

† **2 Chronicles 26:1-4&8** *Now all the people of Judah took Uzziah, who was sixteen years old, and made him king instead of his father Amaziah. He built Elath and restored it to Judah, after the king rested with his fathers. Uzziah was sixteen years old when he became king, and he reigned fifty-two years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Jecholiah of Jerusalem. And he did what was right in the sight of the LORD, according to all that his father Amaziah had done. Also the Ammonites brought tribute to Uzziah. His fame spread as far as the entrance of Egypt, for he became exceedingly strong.*

If you read all of chapter **26** of **2 Chronicles**, you will read all the things the Lord did for Uzziah, but also how he became haughty and thought he was all that as we just read in verse 16, and the sad end results was that Uzziah developed Leprosy and died all alone as a leper.

† **2 Chronicles 26:21** *King Uzziah was a leper until the day of his death. He dwelt in an isolated house, because he was a leper; for he was cut off from the house of the LORD.*

That is a warning for us, that when God does great things for us, we ALWAYS point to our Great God Who has done great things in our lives, and never to ourselves, thinking we are all that.

† **Luke 8:39** *"Return to your own house, and tell what great things God has done for you." And he went his way and proclaimed throughout the whole city what great things Jesus had done for him.*

† **Proverbs 18:12** *Before destruction the heart of a man is haughty, And before honor is humility.*

† **Luke 12:16-21** *Then He spoke a parable to them, saying: "The ground of a certain rich man yielded plentifully. And he thought within himself, saying, 'What shall I do, since I have no room to store my crops?' So he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build greater, and there I will store all my crops and my goods. And I will say to my soul, 'Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years; take your ease; eat, drink, and be merry.'" ' But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul will be required of you; then whose will those things be which you have provided?' So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God."*