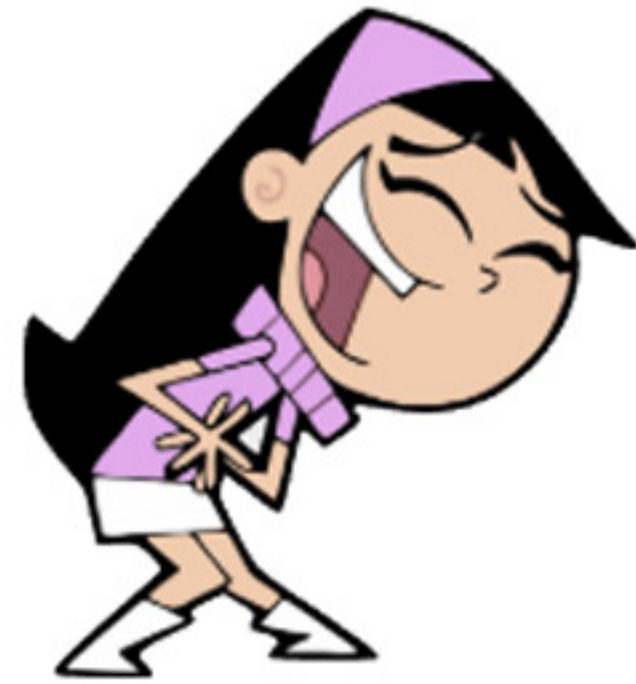
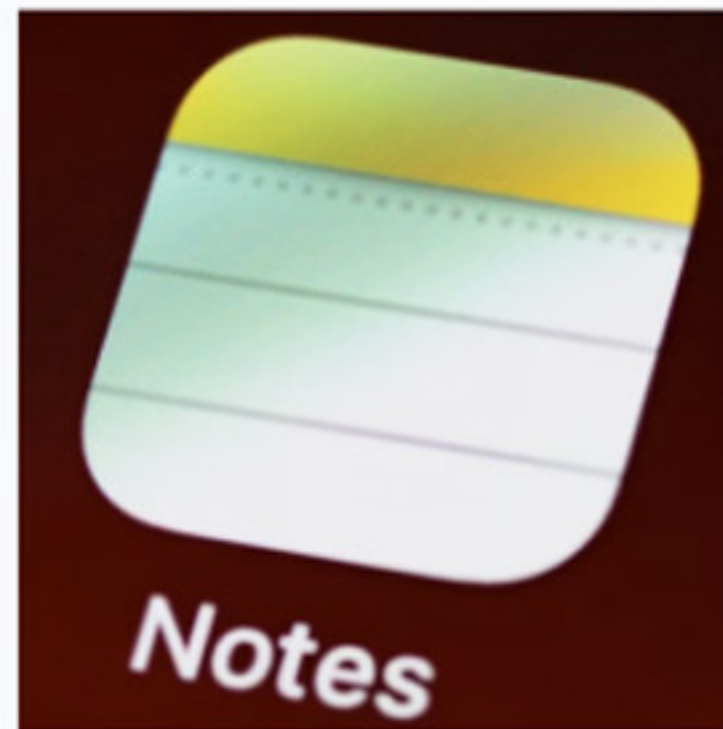
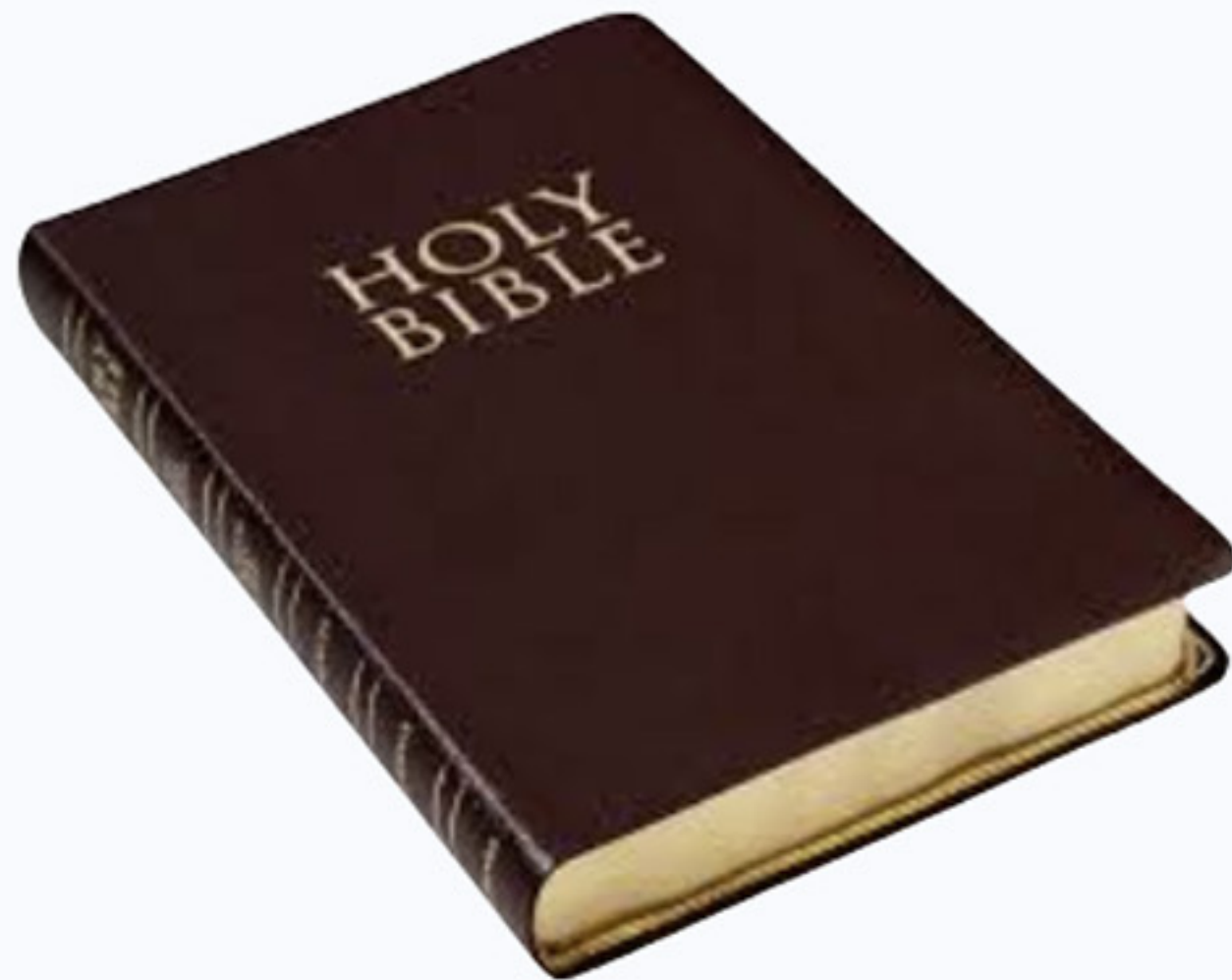


It's Time for
a Laugh!



2026 CHALLENGE





PRIDE AND

FOOLISHNESS



An excessive view of oneself
—thinking you are better than
others or that you don't need help.



PRIDE AND FOOLISHNESS

Foolishness often means
rejecting God's wisdom
and choosing the
wrong path.



**PROMOTED BY GOD,
UNDONE BY PRIDE,**

KING UZZIAH, AT 16 YEARS OLD, BECAME KING OF JUDAH

He did what was right in the eyes of the Lord.

As long as he sought the Lord, God gave him success.

God helped him.

He had become very powerful.

It lists Uzziah's achievements.

He was greatly helped until he became powerful.

Pride led to his downfall.

Then all the people of Judah took Uzziah, who was sixteen years old, and made him king in place of his father Amaziah.

2 CHRONICLES 26:1 (NIV)

He was the one who rebuilt Elath and restored it to Judah after Amaziah rested with his ancestors.

2 CHRONICLES 26:2 (NIV)

Uzziah was sixteen years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem fifty-two years. His mother's name was Jekoliah; she was from Jerusalem.

2 CHRONICLES 26:3 (NIV)

He did what was right in the eyes of the Lord, just as his father Amaziah had done.

2 CHRONICLES 26:4 (NIV)

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.

2 CHRONICLES 26:5 (NIV)

He went to war against the Philistines and broke down the walls of Gath, Jabneh and Ashdod. He then rebuilt towns near Ashdod and elsewhere among the Philistines.

2 CHRONICLES 26:6 (NIV)

God helped him against the Philistines and against the Arabs who lived in Gur Baal and against the Meunites.

2 CHRONICLES 26:7 (NIV)

The Ammonites brought tribute to Uzziah, and his fame spread as far as the border of Egypt, because he had become very powerful.

2 CHRONICLES 26:8 (NIV)

Uzziah built towers in Jerusalem at the Corner Gate,
at the Valley Gate and at the angle of the wall,
and he fortified them.

2 CHRONICLES 26:9 (NIV)

He also built towers in the wilderness and dug many cisterns, because he had much livestock in the foothills and in the plain. He had people working his fields and vineyards in the hills and in the fertile lands, for he loved the soil.

2 CHRONICLES 26:10 (NIV)

Uzziah had a well-trained army, ready to go out by divisions according to their numbers as mustered by Jeiel the secretary and Maaseiah the officer under the direction of Hananiah, one of the royal officials.

2 CHRONICLES 26:1 1 (NIV)

The total number of family leaders over the fighting men was 2,600.

2 CHRONICLES 26:12 (NIV)

Under their command was an army of 307,500 men trained for war, a powerful force to support the king against his enemies.

2 CHRONICLES 26:13 (NIV)

Uzziah provided shields, spears, helmets, coats of armor, bows and slingstones for the entire army.

2 CHRONICLES 26:14 (NIV)

In Jerusalem he made devices invented for use on the towers and on the corner defenses so that soldiers could shoot arrows and hurl large stones from the walls. His fame spread far and wide, for he was greatly helped until he became powerful.

2 CHRONICLES 26:15 (NIV)

But after Uzziah became powerful, his pride led to his downfall. He was unfaithful to the Lord his God, and entered the temple of the Lord to burn incense on the altar of incense.

2 CHRONICLES 26:16 (NIV)

He grew proud to his own destruction.

But after Uzziah became powerful, his pride led to his downfall. He was unfaithful to the Lord his God, and entered the temple of the Lord to burn incense on the altar of incense.

2 CHRONICLES 26:16 (NIV)

Azariah the priest with eighty other courageous priests of the Lord followed him in.

2 CHRONICLES 26:17 (NIV)

They confronted King Uzziah and said, “It is not right for you, Uzziah, to burn incense to the Lord. That is for the priests, the descendants of Aaron, who have been consecrated to burn incense. Leave the sanctuary, for you have been unfaithful; and you will not be honored by the Lord God.”

2 CHRONICLES 26:18 (NIV)

Uzziah, who had a censer in his hand ready to burn incense, became angry. While he was raging at the priests in their presence before the incense altar in the Lord's temple, leprosy broke out on his forehead.

2 CHRONICLES 26:19 (NIV)

When Azariah the chief priest and all the other priests looked at him, they saw that he had leprosy on his forehead, so they hurried him out. Indeed, he himself was eager to leave, because the Lord had afflicted him.

2 CHRONICLES 26:20 (NIV)

King Uzziah had leprosy until the day he died. He lived in a separate house—leprous, and banned from the temple of the Lord. Jotham his son had charge of the palace and governed the people of the land.

2 CHRONICLES 26:21 (NIV)

He went on: “What **comes out of a person** is what defiles them.

MARK 7:20 (NIV)

KING UZZIAH, AT 16 YEARS OLD, BECAME KING OF JUDAH

King Uzziah's tragedy **did not** begin in the temple; it began in his heart – from within.

This wasn't a sudden moment, but a **cultivated** one.

Pride isn't loud at first. It whispers permission before it shouts rebellion.

Spiritual longevity requires **guarding the inner life.**



SUCCESS IS A GIFT
PRIDE IS A CHOICE

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.**

2 CHRONICLES 26:5 (NIV)

But after Uzziah became powerful, **his pride led to his downfall.**
He was **unfaithful** to the Lord his God, and entered the temple of the Lord to burn incense on the altar of incense.

2 CHRONICLES 26:16 (NIV)

Pride is not triggered by weakness.

Pride is triggered by strength without dependence.

REGULARLY ACKNOWLEDGE GOD AS THE SOURCE.

HAVE A HEART OF GRATITUDE AND SURRENDER.

SUCCESS TESTS HUMILITY MORE THAN FAILURE EVER DOES.



**CROSSING GOD-GIVEN
BOUNDARIES
ALWAYS BEGINS
INTERNALLY**

WHAT BOUNDARIES DID UZZIAH CROSS?

Uzziah entered the temple to burn incense
- a role that was reserved for priests.

Before Uzziah crossed the line physically,
he crossed it mentally and spiritually.

“I’ve done enough.”

“I deserve this.”

“The rules shouldn’t apply to me.”

**KNOW YOUR CALLING AND YOUR CONSTRAINTS;
BOTH ARE FROM GOD.**

KNOW THE 'LANE' YOU ARE RUNNING IN.

DON'T REACT TO CORRECTION, BUT RESPOND IN A GODLY WAY.

**KNOW YOUR CALLING AND YOUR CONSTRAINTS;
BOTH ARE FROM GOD.**

KNOW THE 'LANE' YOU ARE RUNNING IN.

DON'T REACT TO CORRECTION, BUT RESPOND IN A GODLY WAY.

**AN UNGUARDED HEART WILL ALWAYS JUSTIFY WHAT GOD
NEVER AUTHORIZED.**



**PRIDE RESISTS
CORRECTION**

**HUMILITY RECEIVES
MERCY**

The priests courageously confronted Uzziah.

Uzziah became furious.

Pride turns correction into an offense.

Humility turns correction into protection.

Treat correction as a GIFT, not a threat.

The priests courageously confronted Uzziah.

Uzziah became furious.

Pride turns correction into an offense.

Humility turns correction into protection.

Treat correction as a GIFT, not a threat.

**HOW YOU RESPOND TO CORRECTION REVEALS
WHO IS RULING YOUR HEART.**



**PRIVATE HEART
CONDITIONS
PRODUCE PUBLIC
CONSEQUENCES**

Leprosy appeared on Uzziah's forehead
- the place of visibility and identity.

What was hidden in the heart became visible on the body.

Pride does not only affect the individual, but it affects legacy,
family, and community.

Leprosy appeared on Uzziah's forehead
- the place of visibility and identity.

What was hidden in the heart became visible on the body.

Pride does not only affect the individual, but it affects legacy,
family, and community.

**GOD WILL PROTECT HIS HOLINESS BUT LONGS
TO RESTORE THE HUMBLE.**

Uzziah's downfall wasn't a lack of anointing but a lack of humility.

Not a lack of calling, but failure to guard the heart.

Jesus' words echo through this story:

“What comes out of a person defiles them.”

Guard - your heart more than your reputation.

Protect - your dependence on God more than your position.

Choose - humility daily before strength turns into a snare.



**PROMOTED BY GOD,
UNDONE BY PRIDE,**



PRIDE AND

FOOLISHNESS

