
TRANSFORMATIVE CHRISTIANITY

Part 4 - Identifying and Understanding Generational Sins and Destructive Strongholds



2 Kings 12:1-3

2 Kings 12:1 - NLT

Joash began to rule over Judah in the seventh year of King Jehu's reign in Israel. He reigned in Jerusalem forty years. His mother was Zibiah from Beersheba.

2 Kings 12:2

**All his life Joash did what was
pleasing in the Lord's sight
because Jehoiada the priest
instructed him.**

2 Kings 12:3

Yet even so, he did not destroy the pagan shrines, and the people still offered sacrifices and burned incense there.

A Recap of Last Week...

The 4 Soils of our Heart



Luke 8:4-15



A Big Picture of the Different Soils in the Human Heart



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Principle #1

Even after we put our faith in God, there are still destructive generational sins and negative strongholds in our lives that God must break and transform.

Stronghold *defined*

A fortress of thought, belief or emotion that controls and influences our attitudes and actions. It is a place where a particular cause or belief is strongly defended or upheld.

**Strongholds color how we
view certain situations,
circumstances, or people.
When these thoughts and
activities become habitual,
we allow a spiritual fortress to
be built around us.**

Over time, we become so used to responding to the “voice” of that spirit, that its hold on our heart and character is secure. All of this happens on a subconscious and spiritual level.

Negative Generational Stronghold

**A continuous destructive
pattern of thoughts and
behaviors that are handed
down from generation to
generation.**

**They often start with a wound
we experience, a hurt, or
disappointment that makes our
heart fertile ground for seeds
of lies to be planted. On this
foundation, the enemy then
begins to build brick by brick, a
wall of lies.**

Inside the wall of lies are inaccurate ideas about the person of God, erroneous interpretations of Scripture, prideful and sinful thoughts, and distorted perceptions of God, the world, others, and sin.

Jehoram (Grandfather) – 2 Kings 8:16-18

↓
Ahaziah (Father) – 2 Kings 8:25-27

↓
Joash

↓
Amaziah (Son) - 14:1-4

↓
Uzziah (Grandson) - 15:1-4

↓
Jotham (Great Grandson) -15:34-35

Grandfather Jehoram

2 Kings 8:16

Jehoram son of King Jehoshaphat of Judah began to rule over Judah in the fifth year of the reign of Joram son of Ahab, king of Israel.

Grandfather Jehoram

2 Kings 8:17

Jehoram was thirty-two years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem eight years.

Grandfather Jehoram

2 Kings 8:18

But Jehoram followed the example of the kings of Israel and was as wicked as King Ahab, for he had married one of Ahab's daughters. So Jehoram did what was evil in the Lord's sight.

Father Ahaziah

2 Kings 8:25

Ahaziah son of Jehoram began to rule over Judah in the twelfth year of the reign of Joram son of Ahab, king of Israel.

Father Ahaziah

2 Kings 8:26

Ahaziah was twenty-two years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem one year. His mother was Athaliah, a granddaughter of King Omri of Israel.

Father Ahaziah

2 Kings 8:27

Ahaziah followed the evil example of King Ahab's family. He did what was evil in the Lord's sight, just as Ahab's family had done, for he was related by marriage to the family of Ahab.

Son Amaziah

2 Kings 14:1

Amaziah son of Joash began to rule over Judah in the second year of the reign of King Jehoash of Israel.

Son Amaziah

2 Kings 14:2

Amaziah was twenty-five years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem twenty-nine years. His mother was Jehoaddin from Jerusalem.

Son Amaziah

2 Kings 14:3

Amaziah did what was pleasing in the Lord's sight, but not like his ancestor David. Instead, he followed the example of his father, Joash.

Son Amaziah

2 Kings 14:4

Amaziah did not destroy the pagan shrines, and the people still offered sacrifices and burned incense there.

Grandson Uzziah

2 Kings 15:1

Uzziah son of Amaziah began to rule over Judah in the twenty-seventh year of the reign of King Jeroboam II of Israel.

Grandson Uzziah

2 Kings 15:2

He was sixteen years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem fifty-two years. His mother was Jecoliah from Jerusalem.

Grandson Uzziah

2 Kings 15:3

He did what was pleasing in the Lord's sight, just as his father, Amaziah, had done.

Grandson Uzziah

2 Kings 15:4

But he did not destroy the pagan shrines, and the people still offered sacrifices and burned incense there.

Great Great Grandson Ahaz

2 Kings 16:1

Ahaz son of Jotham began to rule over Judah in the seventeenth year of King Pekah's reign in Israel.

Great Great Grandson Ahaz

2 Kings 16:2

Ahaz was twenty years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem sixteen years. He did not do what was pleasing in the sight of the Lord his God, as his ancestor David had done.

Great Great Grandson Ahaz

2 Kings 16:3a

Instead, he followed the example
of the kings of Israel, even
sacrificing his own son in the fire.

Great Great Grandson Ahaz

2 Kings 16:3b

In this way, he followed the detestable practices of the pagan nations the Lord had driven from the land ahead of the Israelites.

Great Great Grandson Ahaz

2 Kings 16:4

He offered sacrifices and burned incense at the pagan shrines and on the hills and under every green tree.

The Significance of the Pagan Shrines, Sacrifices, and Burned Incense

Principle #2

Just as there was no place for pagan shrines amidst God's people in the promised land, so too is there no place for generational sins and strongholds in the lives of God's children today.

Like Joash....

- ↳ **We didn't start the generational sin**
- ↳ **We've been hurt by the generational strongholds**
- ↳ **We don't want it**
- ↳ **We continue to suffer from it because we don't realize the spiritual component it entails**

Principle #3

Living Under the Bondage of a
Generational Stronghold Does

NOT Mean:

- ↳ God loves you any less
- ↳ You're Not Truly Saved
- ↳ You Don't Have God's Favor
- ↳ God Can't Bless You

Principle #4

The identification of generational sins and negative strongholds requires an outside perspective. Thankfully, God is in the business of revealing things to His faithful children in community.

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