

# 2 Chronicles 26:15

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And he made in Jerusalem engines, invented by cunning men, to be on the towers and upon the bulwarks, to shoot arrows and great stones withal. And his name spread far abroad; for he was marvellously helped, till he was strong.

## Analysis

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Uzziah's success is attributed to divine help: 'And he made in Jerusalem engines, invented by cunning men, to be on the towers and upon the bulwarks, to shoot arrows and great stones withal. And his name spread far abroad; for he was marvellously helped, till he was strong.' The phrase 'marvellously helped' (nifla la'azor - wonderfully aided) credits God for Uzziah's military innovations and reputation. The temporal clause 'till he was strong' foreshadows tragedy - strength led to pride (26:16). This teaches the dangerous pattern: God's help → success → strength → pride → fall. Only those who maintain humility during success avoid this cycle. Christ perfectly received the Father's help while maintaining humble dependence.

## Historical Context

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Uzziah's long reign (c. 790-738 BCE) saw military and economic expansion. His engineering innovations and strong defenses made Judah a regional power. Yet prosperity bred the pride that led to his usurping priestly functions and resulting leprosy (26:16-21).

## Related Passages

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**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

**1 John 4:8** — God is love

## Study Questions

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1. How can you maintain humble dependence on God during seasons of success and strength?
2. What warning signs indicate you're moving from grateful acknowledgment of God's help toward prideful self-reliance?

## Interlinear Text

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לְהִי וְתַחֲשֵׁב בְּבִירֹשֶׁל מִן עַשְׁנָה  
And he made in Jerusalem engines invented by cunning men H1961  
H6213 H3389 H2810 H4284 H2803

בְּחָצֵב יְמִינָה לִרְאֹא עַל בְּמִגְדָּלִים עַל הַפְּפָה וְתַעֲלֵל  
to be on the towers and upon the bulwarks to shoot arrows H2671  
H5921 H4026 H5921 H6438 H3384 H2671

כִּי לְמִנְחָה וְקָרְבָּן יְמִינָה שְׁמוֹ וְבָאָבָן יְמִינָה  
stones and great spread withal And his name far abroad till H3588  
H68 H1419 H3318 H8034 H5704 H7350

כִּי עַד לְפָעֵז רַב הַפְּלָל יָא  
for he was marvellously helped till he was strong H2388  
H6381 H5826 H5704 H3588

## Additional Cross-References

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**Matthew 4:24** (Parallel theme): And his fame went throughout all Syria: and they brought unto him all sick people that were taken with divers diseases and

torments, and those which were possessed with devils, and those which were lunatick, and those that had the palsy; and he healed them.

**Exodus 31:4** (Parallel theme): To devise cunning works, to work in gold, and in silver, and in brass,

**2 Chronicles 2:7** (References Jerusalem): Send me now therefore a man cunning to work in gold, and in silver, and in brass, and in iron, and in purple, and crimson, and blue, and that can skill to grave with the cunning men that are with me in Judah and in Jerusalem, whom David my father did provide.

**2 Chronicles 2:14** (Parallel theme): The son of a woman of the daughters of Dan, and his father was a man of Tyre, skilful to work in gold, and in silver, in brass, in iron, in stone, and in timber, in purple, in blue, and in fine linen, and in crimson; also to grave any manner of graving, and to find out every device which shall be put to him, with thy cunning men, and with the cunning men of my lord David thy father.

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