

# 1 Kings 15:9

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And in the twentieth year of Jeroboam king of Israel reigned Asa over Judah.

## Analysis

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**And in the twentieth year of Jeroboam king of Israel reigned Asa over Judah.**

This verse contributes to the broader narrative of kings of Judah and Israel: Abijah, Asa, Nadab, Baasha, within the book's focus on spiritual decline of both kingdoms under various rulers.

The Hebrew text reveals nuances important for understanding this passage's contribution to 1 Kings' theological message about kingship, covenant, and faithfulness to Yahweh. This verse demonstrates the consequences when God's people—especially their leaders—either follow or forsake the covenant established at Sinai.

## Historical Context

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First Kings was written during or after the Babylonian exile (6th century BCE), reflecting on the monarchy period (10th-9th centuries BCE) to explain why the kingdoms fell. This period (c. 930-850 BCE) saw rapid succession and instability, especially in the northern kingdom.

Ancient Near Eastern kingship ideology viewed kings as divine representatives responsible for maintaining cosmic order through right worship. Archaeological discoveries from sites like Megiddo, Hazor, and Samaria confirm the historical

reliability of 1 Kings' descriptions of building projects and administrative structures.

## Related Passages

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**Ephesians 2:8** — Salvation by grace through faith

**Romans 10:9** — Confession and belief for salvation

**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

## Study Questions

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1. How does this passage illustrate the importance of complete obedience to God's word without compromise?
2. What does Elijah's ministry reveal about God's character and His commitment to His covenant people?
3. How does this verse point toward or prepare for the coming of Christ and His eternal kingdom?

## Interlinear Text

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וּבְשָׁנָה	עֶשְׂרִים	לִירוֹבָם	מֶלֶךְ	יִשְׂרָאֵל	מֶלֶךְ	אָסָא
year	And in the twentieth	of Jeroboam	king	of Israel	reigned	Asa
H8141	H6242	H3379	H4428	H3478	H4427	H609
מֶלֶךְ	יְהוּדָה:					
king	over Judah					
H4428	H3063					