

# 1 Kings 16:29

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And in the thirty and eighth year of Asa king of Judah began Ahab the son of Omri to reign over Israel: and Ahab the son of Omri reigned over Israel in Samaria twenty and two years.

## Analysis

---

**And in the thirty and eighth year of Asa king of Judah began Ahab the son of Omri to reign over Israel: and Ahab the son of Omri reigned over Israel in Samaria twenty and two years.**

This verse contributes to the broader narrative of kings of Israel: elah, zimri, omri, ahab, 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

---

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

---

**John 3:16** — God's love and salvation

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

**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

**Psalms 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

## Study Questions

---

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

---

שְׁלֹשׁ יָמִים שָׁנָה: יִשְׂרָאֵל עַל וַיִּמְלֹךְ עֲמֹרִי י בֶן אָחָא ב  
and Ahab the son of Omri reigned H5921 over Israel year And in the thirty  
H256 H1121 H6018 H4427 H3478 H8141 H7970

בֶּן אָחָא ב וַיִּמְלֹךְ יְהוֹדָה מֶלֶךְ לְאָסָא שָׁנָה: וְשִׁמְנָה  
and eighth year of Asa king of Judah reigned and Ahab the son  
H8083 H8141 H609 H4428 H3063 H4427 H256 H1121

שָׁנָה: וְשֵׁת יָמִים עָשָׂר יָמִים בִּשְׁמֶרֶץ וַיִּשְׂרָאֵל עַל עֲמֹרִי י  
of Omri H5921 over Israel in Samaria twenty and two year  
H6018 H3478 H8111 H6242 H8147 H8141

---

From KJV Study • [kjvstudy.org](http://kjvstudy.org)