

# 1 Kings 22:40

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

So Ahab slept with his fathers; and Ahaziah his son reigned in his stead.

## Analysis

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**So Ahab slept with his fathers; and Ahaziah his son reigned in his stead.**

This verse contributes to the broader narrative of ahab's death and jehoshaphat's alliance, within the book's focus on prophetic ministry of Elijah confronting Baalism.

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. Elijah's ministry (c. 860-850 BCE) occurred during Ahab's reign, a time of intense spiritual crisis in Israel.

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

**Genesis 1:1** — Creation of heavens and earth

## 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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וְשָׁכַב	אַחָאָב	עִם	אֲבֹתָיו	וַיִּמְלֹךְ	אַחֲזִיָּהוּ	בְּנוֹ	בְּמָקוֹמוֹ
<b>So slept</b>	<b>Ahab</b>	<b>with</b>	<b>his fathers</b>	<b>And reigned</b>	<b>Ahaziah</b>	<b>his son</b>	<b>in his place</b>
H7901	H256	H5973	H1	H4427	H274	H1121	H8478

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