

# 2 Chronicles 23:15

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

So they laid hands on her; and when she was come to the entering of the horse gate by the king's house, they slew her there.

## Analysis

**So they laid hands on her; and when she was come to the entering of the horse gate by the king's house, they slew her there.**

This verse is part of the narrative of Judah's kings, specifically addressing Covenant restoration and righteous coup. The Chronicler's theological perspective emphasizes immediate divine retribution—kings who seek God prosper, while those who forsake Him face judgment. This pattern provides instruction for the post-exilic community on the conditions for God's blessing.

The account demonstrates God's covenant faithfulness despite human unfaithfulness. Even in judgment, God preserves a remnant and offers restoration through repentance. The repeated cycle of apostasy, judgment, and restoration reveals both human sinfulness and divine mercy. References to the temple, proper worship, and priestly service emphasize the Chronicler's concern for correct religious observance.

Theologically, these accounts point beyond immediate history to God's ultimate purposes through the Davidic line. Despite repeated failures, God preserves David's dynasty, anticipating the perfect King who will reign in righteousness. The pattern of judgment for sin and restoration through repentance prefigures the gospel message of salvation through Christ.

## Historical Context

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This passage occurs during the divided monarchy period when Judah existed separately from northern Israel. The Chronicler writes from a post-exilic perspective, addressing the restored community in Jerusalem after the Babylonian exile (539 BCE onward). His emphasis on temple worship, proper religious observance, and God's covenant faithfulness speaks directly to the needs of his audience who had just rebuilt the temple and were reestablishing their identity as God's people.

The historical context demonstrates both God's judgment on persistent sin and His readiness to restore those who genuinely repent. The Chronicler omits most northern kingdom material, focusing on Judah and the Davidic line to emphasize God's faithfulness to His covenant promises. Archaeological discoveries from sites like Lachish, Beersheba, and Jerusalem corroborate the biblical accounts of various kings' reigns and building projects.

Understanding the Chronicler's post-exilic perspective is crucial—he's not merely recording history but applying past lessons to his contemporary audience, showing that the same principles of seeking God, maintaining proper worship, and covenant faithfulness that determined blessing or judgment in the past still apply.

## Related Passages

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**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

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

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

## Study Questions

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1. How does this verse illustrate the principle of divine retribution (blessing for obedience, judgment for sin)?

2. What specific applications does this passage have for maintaining spiritual faithfulness in contemporary Christian life?
3. How does this account point to God's ultimate purposes through the Davidic line and the coming Messiah?

## Interlinear Text

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וַיְשַׁׁלֵּחַ יְמֹן	לְהָ	מִן	יָד	וְאֵת	וְאֵת	וְאֵת	מִבְּ	וְאֵת
<b>So they laid</b>	H0	<b>hands</b>	<b>on her and when she was come</b>			H413	<b>to the entering</b>	
H7760		H3027		H935			H3996	

  

שַׁעַר	יְמָתָה	וְאֵת	בְּיַתְּ	בְּבֵית	לְרֵ	פְּתַח	וְאֵת	שְׁמָן
<b>gate</b>	<b>of the horse</b>	<b>house</b>	<b>by the king's</b>			<b>they slew</b>		H8033
H8179	H5483	H1004		H4428		H4191		

## Additional Cross-References

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**Nehemiah 3:28** (Parallel theme): From above the horse gate repaired the priests, every one over against his house.

**Jeremiah 31:40** (Parallel theme): And the whole valley of the dead bodies, and of the ashes, and all the fields unto the brook of Kidron, unto the corner of the horse gate toward the east, shall be holy unto the LORD; it shall not be plucked up, nor thrown down any more for ever.

**2 Chronicles 22:10** (Parallel theme): But when Athaliah the mother of Ahaziah saw that her son was dead, she arose and destroyed all the seed royal of the house of Judah.