

# 2 Kings 1:17

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

So he died according to the word of the LORD which Elijah had spoken. And Jehoram reigned in his stead in the second year of Jehoram the son of Jehoshaphat king of Judah; because he had no son.

## Analysis

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**So he died according to the word of the LORD which Elijah had spoken. And Jehoram reigned in his stead in the second year of Jehoram the son of Jehoshaphat king of Judah; because he had no son.**

This verse contributes to the overall theme of chapter 1: Divine judgment on apostasy and affirmation of prophetic authority. The divine name emphasizes Yahweh's covenant relationship with Israel and His sovereign control over historical events. The reference to kingship reminds readers that all human authority is subordinate to God's ultimate kingship. The prophetic ministry served as God's primary means of covenant enforcement, calling both kings and people to faithfulness. During this period, Israel and Judah struggled with persistent idolatry, particularly Baal worship introduced under Ahab and Jezebel.

The narrative demonstrates God's justice in judging covenant unfaithfulness while maintaining His ultimate purposes for redemption.

## Historical Context

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**Historical Setting:** 2 Kings 1 takes place during the mid-9th century BCE, around 850 BCE, during the transition from Elijah to Elisha. The chapter's theme

(Ahaziah's Illness and Elijah's Final Confrontations) reflects the historical reality of prophetic succession and divine affirmation of Elisha's ministry following Elijah's remarkable translation. Archaeological evidence from this period includes royal inscriptions, administrative documents, and material culture that corroborate the biblical account while providing additional context for understanding the political and social dynamics at work.

## Related Passages

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

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

## Study Questions

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1. How does this verse contribute to understanding the theological message of 2 Kings 1 regarding divine judgment on apostasy and affirmation of prophetic authority?
2. What does this passage reveal about God's character, particularly His justice, mercy, and faithfulness to covenant promises?
3. In what practical ways should this text shape contemporary Christian thinking about faithfulness, worship, and obedience to God?

## Interlinear Text

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וַיָּמָת	כִּי-מֵת	רֹאשׁ	יְהוָה	אֲשֶׁר	דָּבָר	אֲלֵהֶם
So he died	according to the word	of the LORD		H834	had spoken	which Elijah
H4191	H1697	H3068		H1696		H452
רְגָנֵן	וְיְהוָה	בְּשַׁנְתִּים	לִיהוּךְ	בְּשַׁנְתִּים	שָׁתַּת	וְיְמִלְלָה
reigned	And Jehoram	year	in his stead	in the second		
H4427	H3088	H8478	H8141	H8147		
וְיְהוּךְ	בֶּן	יְהוֹשָׁפָט	לֶה	לֶה	כִּי	לֹא
And Jehoram	because he had no son	of Jehoshaphat	king	king	of Judah	
H3088	H1121	H3092	H4428	H3063	H3588	H3808
לֹא	בֶּן					
H1961	H0	because he had no son				
	H1121					

## Additional Cross-References

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**2 Kings 3:1** (Kingdom): Now Jehoram the son of Ahab began to reign over Israel in Samaria the eighteenth year of Jehoshaphat king of Judah, and reigned twelve years.

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