

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

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

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

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Study Questions

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

וַיָּמָת כַּדְבָּר יְהוָה הוּא אֲשֶׁר דִּבֶּר אֵלָיו הוּא
So he died according to the word of the LORD H834 had spoken which Elijah
H4191 H1697 H3068 H1696 H452

וַיִּמְלֶךְ לִיהוֹרָם תַּחֲתָיו בְּשָׁנָה שְׁנֵי יָמִים
reigned And Jehoram H8478 year in his stead in the second
H4427 H3088 H8141 H8147

לִיהוֹרָם בְּןִי: יְהוֹשָׁפָט מֶלֶךְ יְהוּדָה כִּי לֹא
And Jehoram because he had no son of Jehoshaphat king of Judah H3588 H3808
H3088 H1121 H3092 H4428 H3063

לֹא בְּןִי: לִיהוֹרָם
because he had no son
H1961 H0 H1121

Additional Cross-References

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.