

2 Kings 12:1

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

In the seventh year of Jehu Jehoash began to reign; and forty years reigned he in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Zibiah of Beer-sheba.

Analysis

In the seventh year of Jehu Jehoash began to reign; and forty years reigned he in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Zibiah of Beer-sheba.

This verse contributes to the overall theme of chapter 12: Religious reform and temple restoration. This passage occurs during the decline toward Israel's exile, demonstrating how persistent covenant unfaithfulness leads to national disaster.

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

Historical Context

Historical Setting: 2 Kings 12 takes place during the declining years of the northern kingdom, 8th century BCE, culminating in exile in 722 BCE. The chapter's theme (Joash Repairs the Temple) reflects the historical reality of progressive political instability and external threats, particularly from Aram (Syria) and later Assyria. 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

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. How does this verse contribute to understanding the theological message of 2 Kings 12 regarding religious reform and temple restoration?
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

שָׁנָה הָיָה אֶרְכֶּת יָמִים יְהוָה שָׁבַע שָׁבַע הָיָה
year In the seventh of Jehu began to reign Jehoash and forty year
H8141 H7651 H3058 H4427 H3060 H705 H8141

מִבְּאָר אֶבְרִי הָיָה נָשָׁל מֶלֶךְ מִשְׁמָר בֵּין־זָלֶל מֶלֶךְ אֶת־זָלֶל אֶת־זָלֶל
began to reign he in Jerusalem name And his mother's was Zibiah
H4427 H3389 H8034 H517 H6645 H0

שָׁבַע:
of Beersheba
H884