

2 Kings 13:1

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

In the three and twentieth year of Joash the son of Ahaziah king of Judah Jehoahaz the son of Jehu began to reign over Israel in Samaria, and reigned seventeen years.

Analysis

In the three and twentieth year of Joash the son of Ahaziah king of Judah Jehoahaz the son of Jehu began to reign over Israel in Samaria, and reigned seventeen years.

This verse contributes to the overall theme of chapter 13: God's patience with recurring apostasy. 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. 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 13 takes place during the declining years of the northern kingdom, 8th century BCE, culminating in exile in 722 BCE. The chapter's theme (Decline of Israel and Judah) 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

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Study Questions

1. How does this verse contribute to understanding the theological message of 2 Kings 13 regarding god's patience with recurring apostasy?
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:	עֶשְׂרִים יָמִים	וּשְׁלֹשׁ	שָׁנָה:	לְיוֹאָשׁ שׁ	בֶּן	אֲחָזִיָּה הוּא
year	and twentieth	In the three	year	of Joash	the son	of Ahaziah
H8141	H6242	H7969	H8141	H3101	H1121	H274
מֶלֶךְ	יְהוּדָה הַ	מֶלֶךְ	יְהוֹאָחָז ז	בֶּן	יְהוּ וְאֵל	עַל יִשְׂרָאֵל
king	of Judah	began to reign	Jehoahaz	the son	of Jehu	over Israel
H4428	H3063	H4427	H3059	H1121	H3058	H5921 H3478
בֶּשֶׁת מֶרְוִי	שָׁבַע ע	שָׁנָה:	עֶשְׂרִים הַ	שָׁנָה:		
in Samaria	and reigned seventeen			year		
H8111	H7651		H6240	H8141		