

2 Kings 14:13

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Jehoash king of Israel took Amaziah king of Judah, the son of Jehoash the son of Ahaziah, at Beth-shemesh, and came to Jerusalem, and brake down the wall of Jerusalem from the gate of Ephraim unto the corner gate, four hundred cubits.

Analysis

And Jehoash king of Israel took Amaziah king of Judah, the son of Jehoash the son of Ahaziah, at Beth-shemesh, and came to Jerusalem, and brake down the wall of Jerusalem from the gate of Ephraim unto the corner gate, four hundred cubits.

This verse contributes to the overall theme of chapter 14: Pride leads to downfall; God's mercy continues. The reference to kingship reminds readers that all human authority is subordinate to God's ultimate kingship. 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 14 takes place during the declining years of the northern kingdom, 8th century BCE, culminating in exile in 722 BCE. The chapter's theme (Amaziah of Judah and Jeroboam II) 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

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. How does this verse contribute to understanding the theological message of 2 Kings 14 regarding pride leads to downfall; god's mercy continues?
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

אֶחָזִיָּהּ הוּא	בֶּן	יְהוֹאָשׁ	בֶּן	יְהוּדָה הַמֶּלֶךְ	אֶמְצִיָּהּ הוּא	וְאֵת
of Ahaziah	the son	And Jehoash	the son	king of Judah	Amaziah	H853
H274	H1121	H3060	H1121	H3063	H558	
וַיָּבֹא וְשָׁמַשׁ	בְּיָת	יִשְׂרָאֵל לַמֶּלֶךְ	יְהוֹאָשׁ	וַתֵּקֶף שׁ		
and came	H0	of Israel	And Jehoash	king	took	
H935		H3478	H3060	H4428	H8610	
אֶפְרַיִם יָם	שֶׁעַר	יְרוּשָׁלַיִם	בְּחוֹמַת	וַיִּפְרָץ	יְרוּשָׁלַיִם	
of Ephraim	from the gate	of Jerusalem	the wall	and brake down	of Jerusalem	
H669	H8179	H3389	H2346	H6555	H3389	
אַמָּה: מֵא וְאַרְבַּע	הַפֶּנֶה הַשֶּׁעַר	עַד				
cubits	four hundred	from the gate	unto the corner			
H520	H3967	H8179	H6438			

Additional Cross-References

Nehemiah 8:16 (Parallel theme): So the people went forth, and brought them, and made themselves booths, every one upon the roof of his house, and in their courts, and in the courts of the house of God, and in the street of the water gate, and in the street of the gate of Ephraim.

Jeremiah 31:38 (Parallel theme): Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that the city shall be built to the LORD from the tower of Hananeel unto the gate of the corner.

Nehemiah 12:39 (Parallel theme): And from above the gate of Ephraim, and above the old gate, and above the fish gate, and the tower of Hananeel, and the tower of Meah, even unto the sheep gate: and they stood still in the prison gate.

Zechariah 14:10 (Kingdom): All the land shall be turned as a plain from Geba to Rimmon south of Jerusalem: and it shall be lifted up, and inhabited in her place, from Benjamin's gate unto the place of the first gate, unto the corner gate, and from the tower of Hananeel unto the king's winepresses.

