

2 Kings 14:21

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And all the people of Judah took Azariah, which was sixteen years old, and made him king instead of his father Amaziah.

Analysis

And all the people of Judah took Azariah, which was sixteen years old, and made him king instead of his father Amaziah.

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

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

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

כָּל וַיִּקַּח ו	עַם	אֶת יְהוֹדָה	עֲזַרְיָה ה	וְהָיָה וְא	בֶּן
took	And all the people	of Judah	Azariah		old
H3947	H5971	H3063	H5838	H1931	H1121
שֵׁשְׁ	שָׁנָה ה	וַיַּמְלֵךְ	אֶת ו	תִּחַת	
which was sixteen	years	and made him king			
H8337	H6240	H8141	H4427	H853	H8478
אָב יו	אַמְצִיָּהוּ:				
instead of his father	Amaziah				
H1	H558				

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