

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

בָּנִי	וְהַיְאֵ	עִזּוֹתִי	הָ	אֶת	יְהוּדָה	עַם	כָּל	יְמִינֵךְ	1
took	H3605	And all the people		of Judah	H853	Azariah	H1931	old	
H3947			H5971		H3063	H5838		H1121	
שְׁשָׁנָה		שְׁשָׁנָה	הָ	שְׁשָׁנָה	כִּי	תְּמִימָלֵךְ	וְהַיְתָה	אֶת	1
which was sixteen	H6240	years		and made him king	H853		H8478		
H8337		H8141		H4427					
אָמֵץְתָּהּ		אָמֵץְתָּהּ							
instead of his father		Amaziah							
H1		H558							

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