

# 2 Kings 15:16

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then Menahem smote Tiphsah, and all that were therein, and the coasts thereof from Tirzah: because they opened not to him, therefore he smote it; and all the women therein that were with child he ripped up.

## Analysis

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**Then Menahem smote Tiphsah, and all that were therein, and the coasts thereof from Tirzah: because they opened not to him, therefore he smote it; and all the women therein that were with child he ripped up.**

This verse contributes to the overall theme of chapter 15: Political chaos reveals spiritual bankruptcy. 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

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**Historical Setting:** 2 Kings 15 takes place during the declining years of the northern kingdom, 8th century BCE, culminating in exile in 722 BCE. The chapter's theme (Rapid Succession and Instability) 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

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**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

## Study Questions

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1. How does this verse contribute to understanding the theological message of 2 Kings 15 regarding political chaos reveals spiritual bankruptcy?
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

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כִּי אַתָּה יְהוָה  
not to him therefore he smote Then Menahem Tiphsah  
H227 H5221 H4505 H853 H853 H3605

מִתְרָאֵת הַמִּזְרָחָה  
and all that were therein and the coasts thereof from Tirzah  
H834 H0 H853 H1366 H8656

כִּי אַתָּה  
because they opened not to him therefore he smote  
H3588 H3808 H6605 H5221 H853 H3605

בְּקָרְבָּן  
it and all the women therein that were with child he ripped up  
H2030 H1234

## Additional Cross-References

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**2 Kings 8:12** (Parallel theme): And Hazael said, Why weepeth my lord? And he answered, Because I know the evil that thou wilt do unto the children of Israel: their strong holds wilt thou set on fire, and their young men wilt thou slay with the sword, and wilt dash their children, and rip up their women with child.

**1 Kings 4:24** (Parallel theme): For he had dominion over all the region on this side the river, from Tiphrah even to Azzah, over all the kings on this side the river: and he had peace on all sides round about him.

**Hosea 13:16** (Parallel theme): Samaria shall become desolate; for she hath rebelled against her God: they shall fall by the sword: their infants shall be dashed in pieces, and their women with child shall be ripped up.

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