

2 Kings 15:17

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

In the nine and thirtieth year of Azariah king of Judah began Menahem the son of Gadi to reign over Israel, and reigned ten years in Samaria.

Analysis

In the nine and thirtieth year of Azariah king of Judah began Menahem the son of Gadi to reign over Israel, and reigned ten years in Samaria.

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

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

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

וְהִזְכִּיר הַמְּלָכָה שְׁנָה יָמִין	שְׁלָשׁ יָמִין	וְתִשְׁעָה יָמִין	לְעִזְרָה הַמְּלָכָה	לְהַלֵּךְ בְּלָדָה	וְהַלֵּךְ בְּלָדָה	וְהַלֵּךְ בְּלָדָה
year	and thirtieth	In the nine	year	of Azariah	king	of Judah
H8141	H7970	H8672	H8141	H5838	H4428	H3063
וְהַלֵּךְ בְּלָדָה	מִנְחָה מִן	בְּנֵי	בְּנֵי	עַל	וְשָׁבָא לְ	שָׁרֵךְ
to reign	began Menahem	the son	of Gadi	H5921	over Israel	and reigned ten
H4427	H4505	H1121	H1424	H3478		H6235
בְּשָׂמְרוֹן:	שְׁנָה יָמִין:					
year	in Samaria					
H8141	H8111					