

2 Kings 15:5

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the LORD smote the king, so that he was a leper unto the day of his death, and dwelt in a several house. And Jotham the king's son was over the house, judging the people of the land.

Analysis

And the LORD smote the king, so that he was a leper unto the day of his death, and dwelt in a several house. And Jotham the king's son was over the house, judging the people of the land.

This verse contributes to the overall theme of chapter 15: Political chaos reveals spiritual bankruptcy. The divine name emphasizes Yahweh's covenant relationship with Israel and His sovereign control over historical events. 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

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

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

וַיַּעֲבֹד	יְהוָה	אֶת	בֶּן	לְגַם	יְהוָה	יְהוָה	מִצְרָיִם	עַד
smote	And the LORD	H853	the king	H1961	so that he was a leper	H6879		H5704
H5060	H3068		H4428					
וְ	וְ	מֵת	וְ	וְשָׁבָת	וְ	בְּבֵית	וְ	בְּ
unto the day	of his death	and dwelt	house	in a several	And Jotham	son		
H3117	H4194	H3427	H1004	H2669	H3147	H1121		
בְּ	בְּ	בְּ	בְּ	בְּ	בְּ	בְּ	בְּ	בְּ
לְ	עַל	בֶּן	שְׁפֵט	אֶת	עַם	בְּאָרֶץ		
the king	H5921	house	judging	H853	the people	of the land		
H4428		H1004	H8199		H5971	H776		

Additional Cross-References

Leviticus 13:46 (Parallel theme): All the days wherein the plague shall be in him he shall be defiled; he is unclean: he shall dwell alone; without the camp shall his habitation be.

Numbers 12:14 (References Lord): And the LORD said unto Moses, If her father had but spit in her face, should she not be ashamed seven days? let her be shut out from the camp seven days, and after that let her be received in again.

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