

2 Kings 15:8

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

In the thirty and eighth year of Azariah king of Judah did Zachariah the son of Jeroboam reign over Israel in Samaria six months.

Analysis

In the thirty and eighth year of Azariah king of Judah did Zachariah the son of Jeroboam reign over Israel in Samaria six months.

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

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

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

יְהוָה	הָיָה	לְעִזָּה	בְּנֵי	יְהוָה	שְׁנַיִם	שְׁנַהָּר
year	In the thirty	and eighth	year	of Azariah	king	of Judah
H8141	H7970	H8083	H8141	H5838	H4428	H3063

בְּשָׁמָר	וְיַעֲשֵׂה	לְעִזָּה	בְּנֵי	יְהוָה	זִכְרֵי	מִצְרָיִם	עַל	יְרֵבָע	מִצְרָיִם	לְעִזָּה	בְּנֵי	יְהוָה	שְׁנַיִם	שְׁנַהָּר
reign	did Zachariah	the son	of Jeroboam	over Israel	in Samaria									
H4427	H2148	H1121	H3379	H5921	H3478	H8111								

שְׁנַיִם:	שְׁנַהָּר
six	months
H8337	H2320