

# 2 Kings 18:9

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And it came to pass in the fourth year of king Hezekiah, which was the seventh year of Hoshea son of Elah king of Israel, that Shalmaneser king of Assyria came up against Samaria, and besieged it.

## Analysis

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**And it came to pass in the fourth year of king Hezekiah, which was the seventh year of Hoshea son of Elah king of Israel, that Shalmaneser king of Assyria came up against Samaria, and besieged it.**

This verse contributes to the overall theme of chapter 18: Faithful reformation faces external pressure. The reference to kingship reminds readers that all human authority is subordinate to God's ultimate kingship. In Judah's later history, we see both genuine reforms and deep-rooted corruption, revealing that external religious activity cannot substitute for heart transformation.

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 18 takes place during Hezekiah's reign in Judah, late 8th century BCE, around 715-686 BCE. The chapter's theme (Hezekiah's Reforms and Assyrian Threat) reflects the historical reality of genuine religious reform under Hezekiah, including trust in God that resulted in miraculous deliverance from 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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**Genesis 1:1** — Creation of heavens and earth

**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

## Study Questions

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1. How does this verse contribute to understanding the theological message of 2 Kings 18 regarding faithful reformation faces external pressure?
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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הַיָּא	חִזְקִיָּהוּ	מֶלֶךְ	הַרְבִּיעִית	הַשָּׁנָה	וַיְהִי י
H1931	H2396	H4428	H7243	H8141	H1961
king	Hezekiah		And it came to pass in the fourth	year	
יִשְׂרָאֵל	לְמֶלֶךְ	אֵלָה	בֶּן	לְהוֹשֵׁעַ	הַשָּׁנָה
H3478	H4428	H425	H1121	H1954	H8141
of Israel	king	of Elah	son	of Hoshea	year
וַיָּצַר	שָׁמָר וְ	עַל	אֲשׁוּר	מֶלֶךְ	שַׁלְמָנָאֶסֶר
H6696	H8111	H5921	H804	H4428	H8022
and besieged	against Samaria		of Assyria	king	that Shalmaneser
					עָלָה
					H5927
					came up
					עָלֶיהָ:
					H5921

## Additional Cross-References

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**Hosea 10:14** (Parallel theme): Therefore shall a tumult arise among thy people, and all thy fortresses shall be spoiled, as Shalman spoiled Beth-arbel in the day of battle: the mother was dashed in pieces upon her children.

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