

# 2 Kings 20:21

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Hezekiah slept with his fathers: and Manasseh his son reigned in his stead.

## Analysis

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**And Hezekiah slept with his fathers: and Manasseh his son reigned in his stead.**

This verse contributes to the overall theme of chapter 20: God's mercy and human presumption. 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 20 takes place during Hezekiah's reign in Judah, late 8th century BCE, around 715-686 BCE. The chapter's theme (Hezekiah's Illness and Recovery) 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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**Ephesians 2:8** — Salvation by grace through faith

**Romans 10:9** — Confession and belief for salvation

**1 John 4:8** — God is love

**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

## Study Questions

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1. How does this verse contribute to understanding the theological message of 2 Kings 20 regarding god's mercy and human presumption?
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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וְשָׁכַב ב	חֶזְקִיָּהּ הוּא	עִם	אֲבֹתָיו	וַיִּמְלֹךְ	מְנַשֶּׁה	בְּנוֹ
slept	And Hezekiah	H5973	with his fathers	reigned	and Manasseh	his son
H7901	H2396		H1	H4427	H4519	H1121

וַתִּתְּנוּ

H8478

## Additional Cross-References

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**2 Chronicles 32:33** (Kingdom): And Hezekiah slept with his fathers, and they buried him in the chiefest of the sepulchres of the sons of David: and all Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem did him honour at his death. And Manasseh his son reigned in his stead.

