

2 Kings 24:18

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Zedekiah was twenty and one years old when he began to reign, and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Hamutal, the daughter of Jeremiah of Libnah.

Analysis

Zedekiah was twenty and one years old when he began to reign, and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Hamutal, the daughter of Jeremiah of Libnah.

This verse contributes to the overall theme of chapter 24: Judgment unfolds progressively. As Judah approaches exile, these events fulfill prophetic warnings and demonstrate that God's patience with covenant violation is not infinite.

The narrative demonstrates God's justice in judging covenant unfaithfulness while maintaining His ultimate purposes for redemption.

Historical Context

Historical Setting: 2 Kings 24 takes place during the final collapse of Judah and Babylonian exile, early 6th century BCE, 605-586 BCE. The chapter's theme (Beginning of Babylonian Captivity) reflects the historical reality of the final collapse of Judah, destruction of Jerusalem and the temple, and exile to Babylon as covenant curses are fully realized. 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

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. How does this verse contribute to understanding the theological message of 2 Kings 24 regarding judgment unfolds progressively?
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

בָּן	עֶשְׂרִים	וְאַחַת	שָׁנָה	צִדְקִיָּהוּ	מֶלֶךְ	וְאַחַת
old	was twenty	and one	years	Zedekiah	and he reigned	and one
H1121	H6242	H259	H8141	H6667	H4427	H259
אִמּוֹ	וְשֵׁם	בִּירוּשָׁלַם	מֶלֶךְ	שָׁנָה	עֶשְׂרִים	
	name	in Jerusalem	and he reigned	years		
	H8034	H3389	H4427	H8141		
מַלְבָּנָה:	יְרֵמְיָהוּ	בִּתּוֹ	חַמּוּטִי	ל		
of Libnah	of Jeremiah	the daughter	was Hamutal			
H3841	H3414	H1323	H2537			

Additional Cross-References

2 Kings 23:31 (Kingdom): Jehoahaz was twenty and three years old when he began to reign; and he reigned three months in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Hamutal, the daughter of Jeremiah of Libnah.

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