

# 2 Kings 8:15

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And it came to pass on the morrow, that he took a thick cloth, and dipped it in water, and spread it on his face, so that he died: and Hazael reigned in his stead.

## Analysis

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**And it came to pass on the morrow, that he took a thick cloth, and dipped it in water, and spread it on his face, so that he died: and Hazael reigned in his stead.**

This verse contributes to the overall theme of chapter 8: Prophetic word shapes national events. The prophetic ministry served as God's primary means of covenant enforcement, calling both kings and people to faithfulness. During this period, Israel and Judah struggled with persistent idolatry, particularly Baal worship introduced under Ahab and Jezebel.

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 8 takes place during the Elisha prophetic ministry, approximately 850-800 BCE. The chapter's theme (Elisha's International Influence) reflects the historical reality of God's compassionate provision through prophetic miracles while both kingdoms struggled with persistent idolatry. 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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**1 Corinthians 13:4** — Characteristics of 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 8 regarding prophetic word shapes national events?
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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וַיֵּה י	מִמָּחָר ת	וַלָּךְ ח	הַמְּכָבֵד	וַיִּטֹּב ל		
H1961	H4283	H3947	H4346	H2881		
And it came to pass on the morrow	that he took	a thick cloth	and dipped			
בַּיָּם ים	וַיִּפְרֹשׁ ש	עַל	פָּנָיו יו	וַיָּמָת ת	וַיָּמָלךְ נ	וַיִּמָּלֶךְ ל
H4325	H6566	H5921	H6440	H4191	H4427	H2371
it in water	and spread	it on his face	so that he died	reigned	and Hazael	
וַיִּחַתּוּ:						
H8478						

## Additional Cross-References

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**2 Kings 8:13** (Kingdom): And Hazael said, But what, is thy servant a dog, that he should do this great thing? And Elisha answered, The LORD hath shewed me that thou shalt be king over Syria.