

# 2 Kings 8:16

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And in the fifth year of Joram the son of Ahab king of Israel, Jehoshaphat being then king of Judah, Jehoram the son of Jehoshaphat king of Judah began to reign.

## Analysis

**And in the fifth year of Joram the son of Ahab king of Israel, Jehoshaphat being then king of Judah, Jehoram the son of Jehoshaphat king of Judah began to reign.**

This verse contributes to the overall theme of chapter 8: Prophetic word shapes national events. The reference to kingship reminds readers that all human authority is subordinate to God's ultimate kingship. 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

**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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**John 3:16** — God's love and salvation

**Ephesians 2:8** — Salvation by grace through faith

**1 Corinthians 13:4** — Characteristics of love

**1 John 4:8** — God is 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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וְבָשָׂעַת	שְׁמֵם	מִן	לְיָמִן	בֶּן	אֶחָדָב	לְרֹגֶן
year	And in the fifth	of Joram	the son	of Ahab	being then king	
H8141	H2568	H3141	H1121	H256	H4428	

וְשָׁרָא	לְיָמִן	מִלְּגָדָה	מִלְּגָדָה	מִלְּגָדָה	יְהוֹרָם
of Israel	Jehoshaphat	being then king	of Judah	began to reign	Jehoram
H3478	H3092	H4428	H3063	H4427	H3088

בֶּן	לְיָמִן	וְיָמִן	וְיָמִן
the son	Jehoshaphat	being then king	of Judah
H1121	H3092	H4428	H3063

## Additional Cross-References

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**2 Kings 1:17** (Kingdom): So he died according to the word of the LORD which Elijah had spoken. And Jehoram reigned in his stead in the second year of Jehoram the son of Jehoshaphat king of Judah; because he had no son.

**2 Kings 3:1** (Kingdom): Now Jehoram the son of Ahab began to reign over Israel in Samaria the eighteenth year of Jehoshaphat king of Judah, and reigned twelve years.

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