

# 2 Kings 8:19

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Yet the LORD would not destroy Judah for David his servant's sake, as he promised him to give him alway a light, and to his children.

## Analysis

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**Yet the LORD would not destroy Judah for David his servant's sake, as he promised him to give him alway a light, and to his children.**

This verse contributes to the overall theme of chapter 8: Prophetic word shapes national events. The divine name emphasizes Yahweh's covenant relationship with Israel and His sovereign control over historical 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.



**Isaiah 37:35** (References David): For I will defend this city to save it for mine own sake, and for my servant David's sake.

**Hosea 11:9** (Parallel theme): I will not execute the fierceness of mine anger, I will not return to destroy Ephraim: for I am God, and not man; the Holy One in the midst of thee: and I will not enter into the city.

**2 Samuel 7:15** (Parallel theme): But my mercy shall not depart away from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I put away before thee.

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