

# 2 Kings 8:21

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

So Joram went over to Zair, and all the chariots with him: and he rose by night, and smote the Edomites which compassed him about, and the captains of the chariots: and the people fled into their tents.

## Analysis

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**So Joram went over to Zair, and all the chariots with him: and he rose by night, and smote the Edomites which compassed him about, and the captains of the chariots: and the people fled into their tents.**

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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**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

**Genesis 1:1** — Creation of heavens and earth

## 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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וַעֲבָרָה	יֹרָם	צָעַר יֶזְרָה	וְכָל	הָרֶכֶב	עַמּוֹ	יְהוָה	וְאֵל
went over	So Joram	to Zair	H3605	and all the chariots	H5973	H1961	H1931
H5674	H3141	H6811		H7393			
לְקָם	לַיְלָה	וַיִּכּוּ	אֶת־	אֶדְוִם			
with him and he rose	by night	and smote	H853	the Edomites			
H6965	H3915	H5221		H123			
הַסָּבִיב	אֵלָיו	וְאֵת־	שָׂרֵי	הָרֶכֶב			
which compassed him about	H413	H853	and the captains	and all the chariots			
H5437			H8269	H7393			
וַיִּנָּסוּ	הָעָם	לְאֹהֲלֵיהֶם					
fled	and the people	into their tents					
H5127	H5971	H168					

