

# 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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וְאֵלֶּה עַמּוֹן וְעַבְדֵּי רְגָבָן  
went over So Joram to Zair and all the chariots H5674 H3141 H3605 H7393 H1961 H1931

וְאֵלֶּה עַמּוֹן וְעַבְדֵּי רְגָבָן  
with him and he rose by night and smote the Edomites H6965 H3915 H5221 H853 H123

וְאֵלֶּה עַמּוֹן וְעַבְדֵּי רְגָבָן  
which compassed him about and the captains and all the chariots H5437 H413 H853 H8269 H7393

וְאֵלֶּה עַמּוֹן וְעַבְדֵּי רְגָבָן  
fled and the people into their tents H5127 H5971 H168

