

# 2 Kings 8:26

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Two and twenty years old was Ahaziah when he began to reign; and he reigned one year in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Athaliah, the daughter of Omri king of Israel.

## Analysis

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**Two and twenty years old was Ahaziah when he began to reign; and he reigned one year in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Athaliah, the daughter of Omri king of Israel.**

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

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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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**Romans 10:9** — Confession and belief for salvation

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

**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

**1 Corinthians 13:4** — Characteristics 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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בָּן	עֶשְׂרִים	וְשָׁנָה	שְׁנָה	אֲחִיָּהוּ	וְהָרָג	שְׁנָה
old	and twenty	Two	year	was Ahaziah	and he reigned	year
H1121	H6242	H8147	H8141	H274	H4427	H8141
אֶחָד	וְהָרָג	בִּירוּשָׁלַם	וְשֵׁם	אִמּוֹ	עָתִידָהּ	הָיָה
one	and he reigned	in Jerusalem	name	And his mother's	was Athaliah	
H259	H4427	H3389	H8034	H517	H6271	
בֵּת	עֹמְרִי	מֶלֶךְ	יִשְׂרָאֵל:			
the daughter	of Omri	king	of Israel			
H1323	H6018	H4428	H3478			

## Additional Cross-References

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**2 Chronicles 22:2** (Kingdom): Forty and two years old was Ahaziah when he began to reign, and he reigned one year in Jerusalem. His mother's name also was Athaliah the daughter of Omri.

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