

# 2 Samuel 8:15

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And David reigned over all Israel; and David executed judgment and justice unto all his people.

## Analysis

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**And David reigned over all Israel; and David executed judgment and justice unto all his people.**

This verse contributes to the narrative of David's Military Victories, emphasizing God granting victory and expansion. David's military campaigns demonstrate God's promise-keeping (Genesis 15:18-21) regarding territorial boundaries. The Hebrew emphasizes that "the LORD gave David victory wherever he went," attributing success to divine enablement rather than mere military prowess. Theological themes include God's sovereignty over nations, the legitimacy of defensive/offensive warfare under certain circumstances, and proper use of conquered wealth for God's purposes.

## Historical Context

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The historical setting of 2 Samuel 8 occurs during David's reign (circa 1010-970 BCE) over Israel's united monarchy. Archaeological discoveries, including the Tel Dan inscription mentioning the 'House of David,' corroborate biblical historicity. Ancient Near Eastern customs regarding God granting victory and expansion provide crucial background. The geopolitical situation involved regional powers—Philistines, Ammonites, Arameans, Moabites, Edomites—as David consolidated and expanded Israel's territory. Cultural practices concerning kingship, warfare, covenant relationships, family dynamics, and religious observance differed significantly from modern Western contexts, requiring careful attention to avoid

anachronistic interpretation while extracting timeless theological principles applicable across cultures and eras.

## Related Passages

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**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

## Study Questions

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1. How does this passage deepen your understanding of God granting victory and expansion?
2. What does this verse reveal about God's character, and how should that shape your worship and obedience?
3. In what specific ways can you apply this truth to your current circumstances and relationships this week?

## Interlinear Text

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וַיִּמְלֹךְ	וְדָוִד	עַל	כָּל	יִשְׂרָאֵל	וַיְהִי	וְדָוִד	עָשָׂה
reigned	And David	H5921	H3605	over all Israel	H1961	And David	executed
H4427	H1732			H3478		H1732	H6213
מִשְׁפָּט	וְצִדִּיקָה	לְכָל	עַמּוֹ:				
judgment	and justice	H3605	unto all his people				
H4941	H6666		H5971				

## Additional Cross-References

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**Amos 5:15** (Judgment): Hate the evil, and love the good, and establish judgment in the gate: it may be that the LORD God of hosts will be gracious unto the remnant of Joseph.

**Psalms 72:2** (Righteousness): He shall judge thy people with righteousness, and thy poor with judgment.

**Psalms 89:14** (Righteousness): Justice and judgment are the habitation of thy throne: mercy and truth shall go before thy face.

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