

Is the Bible corrupted? In 2 Kings 8:26 Ahaziah reigned one year when he was 22 years old. But in 2 Chronicles 22:2 it says Ahaziah was 42 when he started to reign.

God's word is described as: pure (Ps 19:8), sure (Ps 111:7, 8) and harmonious (Ac 15:15)¹. The Bible is an inerrant book—which is not to say that it free of typos. Small errors do not affect the Bible's overall meaning,

Some scholars believe that 2 Chronicles 22:2² contains a copyist's error due to minor differences in Hebrew writing. *Forty-two* in the passage likely should read *twenty-two*.

Regarding this error Stacia McKeever and Bodie Hodge wrote:

...[C]opies and translations are not inerrant (this is different from preservation). Recognizing this gives more credit to God's originals and focuses less on the fallible copyists....Also, it stresses the need to handle the copies and translations of the Word of God with great care and reverence. Had translations and copies been kept inerrant, which Scripture doesn't reveal, then they should all be identical and yet they are not. God has preserved His Word in a variety of copies and has warned against changing His Word.³

God's word is: inspired (2 Ti 3:16), verbally accurate (Mt 22:32, 43–46; Ga 3:16) and effective (Jer 23:29; 2 Ti 3:15).⁴

¹ Thomas Nelson Publishers. (1996). Nelson's quick reference topical Bible index (p. 659). Thomas Nelson Publishers.

² Ahaziah was 22 (Some LXX mss, Syr; MT reads 42; 2Kg 8:26. The Holy Bible: Holman Christian standard version. (2009). Holman Bible Publishers.) years old when he became king and reigned one year in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Athaliah, granddaughter of Omri.

³ McKeever, Stacia, and Bodie Hodge. "Contradictions: Two Ages at Once." *Answers in Genesis*, answersingenesis.org/bible-timeline/genealogy/two-ages-at-once. Accessed 2 Nov. 2023.

⁴ Ibid, p. 318.