

Somebody else would say, "No, he's dead; this is George II's reign." So you might even still have some people who would say, "Well this is the first year of George II's reign so we'll date the whole year after him even though his father lived in a certain portion of it." So you would have three possible methods: to call the whole year the last year of one king, to call it all the first year of the second king, or to call half of it the last of one and half of it the first year of the second. Of course, when you say that something happened in the third year of this king's reign, somebody would think of it as the third or fourth year. Somebody else would think that the first year was ~~that~~ if he began to reign the 15th of December, the first year of his reign was the last 15 days of that year; the second year was the next month. If he only reigned half a ~~year~~ month, he would be in ~~only~~ the second year of his reign. Someone else would say that is absurd; continue the first year up to the exact time when he started to reign and continue from there. You see the difficulty? You have to get an agreement on a definite system, and there is no such agreement. So in different countries we find customs in this regard depending on the man who wrote. We have no evidence that there was ~~no one~~ specific, prescribed system used in ancient Israel or Judah. Now we have no ~~any~~ evidence nor proof that there was; there may have been. It has not come down to prove it, and we know that various customs were used in the countries round about. So there is a large opportunity here for disagreement. You can easily see that after you have twenty kings, your chronology might be twenty years shorter or longer depending on how you count the years. Then there is another thing that enters to complicate it. That is ~~this~~ this. We have Queen Wilhelmina in Holland who has just retired from being queen, and she has stepped out and Juliana has become queen. Yet I imagine there will be still ~~not~~ people five years from now if Wilhelmina is living who will speak of ~~this~~ as <sup>the</sup> ~~her~~ fifty-fifth year, since she became queen. That certainly would be the case if we didn't have our system of dating according to the A. D. system.