

1 Samuel 20:35

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And it came to pass in the morning, that Jonathan went out into the field at the time appointed with David, and a little lad with him.

Analysis

And it came to pass in the morning, that Jonathan went out into the field at the time appointed with David, and a little lad with him.

Jonathan fulfilled his commitment: 'in the morning...at the time appointed' - precise obedience to the agreed plan. The 'little lad' (na'ar qaton) served as unwitting instrument. His youth and small size emphasized his innocence about the momentous communication he would help convey. The field that had been designated for meeting now became site of farewell. Faithful friends keep appointments even when the news to be delivered is painful. Jonathan came prepared to deliver whatever message the events required.

Historical Context

Morning timing allowed normal activity as cover. Young servants were commonly used for menial tasks like retrieving arrows. The specific appointment time demonstrates the precision of their planning despite emotional turmoil.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. How important is keeping commitments even when circumstances become painful?
2. What does Jonathan's punctual arrival teach about reliability in friendship?

Interlinear Text

למַעַן	בְּעֵת	בְּעֵת	בְּעֵת	בְּעֵת	בְּעֵת	בְּעֵת
at the time appointed	with David	lad	and a little			
H4150	H1732	H5288	H6996			H5973

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