

1 Samuel 20:42

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Jonathan said to David, Go in peace, forasmuch as we have sworn both of us in the name of the LORD, saying, The LORD be between me and thee, and between my seed and thy seed for ever. And he arose and departed: and Jonathan went into the city.

Analysis

And Jonathan said to David, Go in peace, forasmuch as we have sworn both of us in the name of the LORD, saying, The LORD be between me and thee, and between my seed and thy seed for ever. And he arose and departed: and Jonathan went into the city.

Jonathan's benediction - 'Go in peace, forasmuch as we have sworn both of us in the name of the LORD' - sends David forth grounded in covenant certainty. The eternal scope 'between my seed and thy seed for ever' extends far beyond their immediate crisis. Jonathan's final words commission David into a future neither would fully share but both trusted to God. Peace (shalom) amid parting comes from trust in covenant faithfulness.

Historical Context

Covenant blessings at parting invoked divine protection for the journey ahead. The multigenerational scope reflected ancient Near Eastern understanding that covenants bound families across generations. David would fulfill this covenant through Mephibosheth.

Related Passages

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. How does certainty about covenant relationships provide peace in uncertain circumstances?
2. What future generations might be affected by the commitments you make today?

Interlinear Text

אָשֶׁר לְשָׁלָום לְנִזְמָת | יְהוָה נָתָן דְּלִילָה רְאִמָּה
said And Jonathan to David in peace H1980 H834
H559 H3083 H1732 H7965

יְהוָה בְּשָׁם אָנָּנוּ שָׁבְּעָנוּ נִשְׁבָּעָנוּ
The LORD of us in the name both forasmuch as we have sworn H587 H8034 H3068
H3068 H8147 H5850

לְאִמָּה רְאִמָּה יְהוָה בְּינֵינוּ וְבֵין בְּינֵינוּ וְבֵין יְהוָה
said The LORD H1961 H996 H996 H996 and thy seed H996
H559 H3068

בְּאָמֵן וְלֹא יָרַא בְּאָמֵן וְלֹא יָרַא יְהוָה
and thy seed for ever And he arose And Jonathan went H1980 H3083 H935
H2233 H5704 H5769 H6965

בָּעִיר: into the city
H5892

Additional Cross-References

1 Samuel 1:17 (Peace): Then Eli answered and said, Go in peace: and the God of Israel grant thee thy petition that thou hast asked of him.

1 Samuel 23:18 (References Lord): And they two made a covenant before the LORD: and David abode in the wood, and Jonathan went to his house.

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