

1 Samuel 25:28

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

I pray thee, forgive the trespass of thine handmaid: for the LORD will certainly make my lord a sure house; because my lord fighteth the battles of the LORD, and evil hath not been found in thee all thy days.

Analysis

I pray thee, forgive the trespass of thine handmaid: for the LORD will certainly make my lord a sure house; because my lord fighteth the battles of the LORD, and evil hath not been found in thee all thy days.

Abigail's prophetic insight reaches its climax. Her request for forgiveness maintains humble posture while pivoting to David's future. The phrase 'sure house' (Hebrew 'bayit ne'eman') prophesies dynastic establishment—remarkable from a stranger encountering a fugitive. Her reasoning—'because my lord fighteth the battles of the LORD'—identifies David's divine commission. The declaration 'evil hath not been found in thee all thy days' affirms David's integrity while implicitly warning against staining that record. Abigail saw David's destiny and urged him not to compromise it through vengeful violence. Her prophecy echoes Nathan's later dynastic promise (2 Samuel 7).

Historical Context

The phrase 'sure house' (bayit ne'eman) became technical language for dynastic promise, later explicitly given to David by Nathan. Abigail's use of this language demonstrates prophetic insight beyond ordinary wisdom. Her assessment of David's character reflected widespread recognition of his integrity.

Related Passages

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. How did Abigail's vision of David's future inform her appeal?
2. What does her prophetic insight teach about recognizing God's purposes in unlikely circumstances?

Interlinear Text

אַל	שְׁאֵל	לְפָנֶיךָ	אַמְתָּת	כִּי	כִּי	וְעַשֵּׂה	וְעַשֵּׂה
I pray thee forgive	H4994	the trespass	of thine handmaid	H3588	make	make	
H5375	H6588	H519	H3588	H6213		H6213	
יְהִי	מַלְכָּמָד	וְתִּכְלִפְתָּם	כִּי	נָאָמֵן	בְּעִת	אָדָן	יְהִי
for the LORD	because my lord	house	a sure	H3588	the battles	for the LORD	
H3068	H113	H1004	H539	H4421		H3068	
אָדָן	נָלַפְתָּם	לֹא	וְרָעָה	תִּמְצָא	בְּ		
because my lord	fighteth	and evil	H3808	hath not been found	H0		
H113	H3898	H7451		H4672			
מְתִיּוֹבָן:							
in thee all thy days							
	H3117						

Additional Cross-References

1 Samuel 18:17 (References Lord): And Saul said to David, Behold my elder daughter Merab, her will I give thee to wife: only be thou valiant for me, and fight the LORD'S battles. For Saul said, Let not mine hand be upon him, but let the hand of the Philistines be upon him.

2 Samuel 7:11 (References Lord): And as since the time that I commanded judges to be over my people Israel, and have caused thee to rest from all thine enemies. Also the LORD telleth thee that he will make thee an house.

1 Chronicles 17:25 (Prayer): For thou, O my God, hast told thy servant that thou wilt build him an house: therefore thy servant hath found in his heart to pray before thee.

1 Samuel 24:11 (Evil): Moreover, my father, see, yea, see the skirt of thy robe in my hand: for in that I cut off the skirt of thy robe, and killed thee not, know thou and see that there is neither evil nor transgression in mine hand, and I have not sinned against thee; yet thou hunttest my soul to take it.

1 Chronicles 17:10 (References Lord): And since the time that I commanded judges to be over my people Israel. Moreover I will subdue all thine enemies. Furthermore I tell thee that the LORD will build thee an house.

1 Kings 9:5 (Parallel theme): Then I will establish the throne of thy kingdom upon Israel for ever, as I promised to David thy father, saying, There shall not fail thee a man upon the throne of Israel.

2 Samuel 7:16 (Parallel theme): And thine house and thy kingdom shall be established for ever before thee: thy throne shall be established for ever.