

1 Samuel 28:17

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the LORD hath done to him, as he spake by me: for the LORD hath rent the kingdom out of thine hand, and given it to thy neighbour, even to David:

Analysis

Samuel's message confirms previous prophecy: 'The LORD hath done to him, as he spake by me.' The Hebrew 'ka'asher dibber beyadi' (as he spoke through me) references Samuel's earlier announcement of kingdom transfer (chapter 15). The naming of David as recipient ('thy neighbour') removes any ambiguity about the successor. Samuel's words from beyond the grave confirm rather than alter previous revelation. God's word through the prophet in life remains binding after the prophet's death, demonstrating the permanent authority of divine pronouncement.

Historical Context

This confirmation references 1 Samuel 15:28 where Samuel told Saul the kingdom would be given to 'a neighbour of thine, that is better than thou.' The use of 'neighbour' (rea') rather than David's name maintains the vocabulary of the earlier prophecy.

Related Passages

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. How does the consistency of God's word across time strengthen your confidence in Scripture?
2. What prophecies or promises are you waiting to see fulfilled?

Interlinear Text

וְעָשָׂה יְהוָה כֹּאשֶׁר לֹא דָבַר רַבֵּב מִלְכָה תְּזַקֵּן
hath done And the LORD H0 H834 to him as he spake by me hath rent
H6213 H3068 H1696 H3027 H7167

אַתָּה בְּמַלְכָה מִלְכָה תְּזַקֵּן הַמְּלָכָה לְרַעַב
the kingdom by me and given it to thy neighbour
H853 H4467 H3027 H5414 H7453

לְדִידָה:

even to David

H1732

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