

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

וַיַּעַשׂ	יְהוָה ה	לֹא	כְּאִשׁ ר	דָּבָר	מִדְּב	וְקָרַע
hath done	And the LORD	H0	H834	to him as he spake	by me	hath rent
H6213	H3068			H1696	H3027	H7167
יְהוָה ה	אֶת	הַמַּמְלָכָה	מִדְּב	וְנָתַן ה	לְרֵעִי	
And the LORD	H853	the kingdom	by me	and given	it to thy neighbour	
H3068		H4467	H3027	H5414	H7453	
לְדָוִד:						
even to David						
H1732						

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