

2 Chronicles 18:14

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And when he was come to the king, the king said unto him, Micaiah, shall we go to Ramoth-gilead to battle, or shall I forbear? And he said, Go ye up, and prosper, and they shall be delivered into your hand.

Analysis

And when he was come to the king, the king said unto him, Micaiah, shall we go to Ramoth-gilead to battle, or shall I forbear? And he said, Go ye up, and prosper, and they shall be delivered into your hand.

This verse is part of the narrative of Judah's kings, specifically addressing Danger of ungodly partnerships despite personal faithfulness. The Chronicler's theological perspective emphasizes immediate divine retribution—kings who seek God prosper, while those who forsake Him face judgment. This pattern provides instruction for the post-exilic community on the conditions for God's blessing.

The account demonstrates God's covenant faithfulness despite human unfaithfulness. Even in judgment, God preserves a remnant and offers restoration through repentance. The repeated cycle of apostasy, judgment, and restoration reveals both human sinfulness and divine mercy. References to the temple, proper worship, and priestly service emphasize the Chronicler's concern for correct religious observance.

Theologically, these accounts point beyond immediate history to God's ultimate purposes through the Davidic line. Despite repeated failures, God preserves David's dynasty, anticipating the perfect King who will reign in righteousness. The

pattern of judgment for sin and restoration through repentance prefigures the gospel message of salvation through Christ.

Historical Context

This passage occurs during the divided monarchy period when Judah existed separately from northern Israel. The Chronicler writes from a post-exilic perspective, addressing the restored community in Jerusalem after the Babylonian exile (539 BCE onward). His emphasis on temple worship, proper religious observance, and God's covenant faithfulness speaks directly to the needs of his audience who had just rebuilt the temple and were reestablishing their identity as God's people.

The historical context demonstrates both God's judgment on persistent sin and His readiness to restore those who genuinely repent. The Chronicler omits most northern kingdom material, focusing on Judah and the Davidic line to emphasize God's faithfulness to His covenant promises. Archaeological discoveries from sites like Lachish, Beersheba, and Jerusalem corroborate the biblical accounts of various kings' reigns and building projects.

Understanding the Chronicler's post-exilic perspective is crucial—he's not merely recording history but applying past lessons to his contemporary audience, showing that the same principles of seeking God, maintaining proper worship, and covenant faithfulness that determined blessing or judgment in the past still apply.

Related Passages

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. How does this verse illustrate the principle of divine retribution (blessing for obedience, judgment for sin)?

2. What specific applications does this passage have for maintaining spiritual faithfulness in contemporary Christian life?
3. How does this account point to God's ultimate purposes through the Davidic line and the coming Messiah?

Interlinear Text

וַיָּבֹא	אֵל	לְרֹא	פֶּמֶת	וַיֹּאמֶר	אֵל	וַיֹּאמֶר	פֶּמֶת	לְרֹא	אֵל
And when he was come	H413	the king	H4428	And he said	H559	the king	H4428		H413
	H935								
מִיכָּה	אֵל	בְּנֵל־גַּד	כִּמְתָּא	לְמִלְחָמָה	אֵל	בְּנֵל־גַּד	כִּמְתָּא	לְמִלְחָמָה	אֵל
unto him Micaiah	H1980	H413	to Ramothgilead	H7433			H1568	to battle	H518
	H4318								
אַחֲךָ לְ	וַיֹּאמֶר	עַל־וְ	וַיֹּאמֶר	וַיֹּאמֶר	וַיֹּאמֶר	וַיֹּאמֶר	וַיֹּאמֶר	וַיֹּאמֶר	וַיֹּאמֶר
or shall I forbear	And he said	Go ye up	and prosper	and they shall be delivered					
H2308	H559	H5927	H6743	H5414					
בְּיַדְכֶם:									
into your hand									
	H3027								

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