

2 Chronicles 23:11

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then they brought out the king's son, and put upon him the crown, and gave him the testimony, and made him king. And Jehoiada and his sons anointed him, and said, God save the king.

Analysis

Then they brought out the king's son, and put upon him the crown, and gave him the testimony, and made him king. And Jehoiada and his sons anointed him, and said, God save the king.

This verse is part of the narrative of Judah's kings, specifically addressing Covenant restoration and righteous coup. 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

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

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

Then they brought out upon him the crown	אֶת וְעַל	וַיִּזְבַּח וְעַל	וְבָנָיו וְעַל	וְהַמֶּלֶךְ וְהַמֶּלֶךְ	וְנִתְנַת וְנִתְנַת	וְנִתְנַת וְנִתְנַת	וְנִתְנַת וְנִתְנַת
H3318	H853	H1121	H4428	H4428	H5414	H5921	H853
בְּעֵד וְתַ בְּעֵד וְתַ	וְאֶת וְאֶת	בְּבֵן יְהוּדָה בְּבֵן יְהוּדָה	וְיִאָמַר וְיִאָמַר	וְיִמְשְׁחַ וְיִמְשְׁחַ	וְיִתְּמִלְכֵ וְיִתְּמִלְכֵ	וְיִתְּמִלְכֵ וְיִתְּמִלְכֵ	וְיִתְּמִלְכֵ וְיִתְּמִלְכֵ
H5145	H853	H5715	H4427	H559	H2421	H4428	H853
anointed And Jehoiada	and his sons	him and said	God save	the king			
H4886	H3077	H1121	H559	H2421	H4428		

Additional Cross-References

1 Samuel 10:24 (Salvation): And Samuel said to all the people, See ye him whom the LORD hath chosen, that there is none like him among all the people? And all the people shouted, and said, God save the king.

Exodus 25:16 (Witness): And thou shalt put into the ark the testimony which I shall give thee.

2 Kings 11:12 (Salvation): And he brought forth the king's son, and put the crown upon him, and gave him the testimony; and they made him king, and anointed him; and they clapped their hands, and said, God save the king.