

2 Chronicles 28:22

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And in the time of his distress did he trespass yet more against the LORD: this is that king Ahaz.

Analysis

The summary of wicked King Ahaz: 'And in the time of his distress did he trespass yet more against the LORD: this is that king Ahaz.' The phrase 'in the time of his distress' shows Ahaz responded to hardship by intensifying sin rather than repenting. Most people either soften toward God in affliction or harden against Him - Ahaz hardened. The bitter conclusion 'this is that king Ahaz' marks him as an example of one who learned nothing from discipline. This warns that adversity doesn't automatically produce repentance; hard hearts can be further hardened by difficulty. Christ alone perfectly learned obedience through suffering (Hebrews 5:8), modeling the proper response to affliction.

Historical Context

Ahaz's reign (c. 735-715 BCE) was marked by idolatry, child sacrifice, and political alliances with Assyria against God's will. Even Assyrian oppression didn't produce repentance but drove him deeper into pagan worship, demonstrating that only God's grace, not circumstances, changes hearts.

Related Passages

1 John 4:8 — God is love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Study Questions

1. How do you respond to distress - by drawing closer to God or distancing yourself through increased sin?
2. What spiritual disciplines help ensure affliction softens your heart toward God rather than hardening it?

Interlinear Text

בָּעֵת	וְיָצָר	לְאַתָּה	לְמַעַן	בְּיַהְיֵה
And in the time	of his distress	H0	yet more	did he trespass
H6256	H6887	H3254	H4603	against the LORD
				H3068
אַתָּה	כִּי	לְאֵת	הַזֶּה	
this is that king		Ahaz		
H1931	H4428	H271		

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 1:5 (Parallel theme): Why should ye be stricken any more? ye will revolt more and more: the whole head is sick, and the whole heart faint.

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