

2 Chronicles 30:20

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the LORD hearkened to Hezekiah, and healed the people.

Analysis

God's response to Hezekiah's intercession: 'And the LORD hearkened to Hezekiah, and healed the people.' The verb 'hearkened' (shama) means God listened and responded favorably. God healed (rafa) the people - likely referring to not judging their ritual violation. This demonstrates that God values heart-orientation over mechanical correctness. The intercession of a righteous leader (Hezekiah) averted judgment on those who sought God with sincere but imperfect approach. This points to Christ's intercession (Hebrews 7:25) that secures God's favorable response toward imperfect worshipers who come through Him.

Historical Context

This grace-filled response (c. 715 BCE) encouraged broader participation in covenant renewal. God's healing demonstrated that worship's goal is God-honoring heart-devotion, not mere ritual precision - a lesson the prophets repeatedly taught (Isaiah 1:11-17, Hosea 6:6).

Related Passages

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Study Questions

1. How does knowing Christ intercedes for you give confidence to approach God despite your imperfections?
2. What 'healing' do you need from God's favorable response to sincere but imperfect worship?

Interlinear Text

וְשָׁמַעַ	יְהוָה	אֶל	יְחִזְקִיָּהוּ	וַיִּרְפֵּא	אֶת	הָעָם:
hearkened	And the LORD	H413	to Hezekiah	and healed	H853	the people
H8085	H3068		H3169	H7495		H5971

Additional Cross-References

Exodus 15:26 (References Lord): And said, If thou wilt diligently hearken to the voice of the LORD thy God, and wilt do that which is right in his sight, and wilt give ear to his commandments, and keep all his statutes, I will put none of these diseases upon thee, which I have brought upon the Egyptians: for I am the LORD that healeth thee.

Psalms 103:3 (Parallel theme): Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases;