

2 Chronicles 30:6

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

So the posts went with the letters from the king and his princes throughout all Israel and Judah, and according to the commandment of the king, saying, Ye children of Israel, turn again unto the LORD God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, and he will return to the remnant of you, that are escaped out of the hand of the kings of Assyria.

Analysis

So the posts went with the letters from the king and his princes throughout all Israel and Judah, and according to the commandment of the king, saying, Ye children of Israel, turn again unto the LORD God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, and he will return to the remnant of you, that are escaped out of the hand of the kings of Assyria.

This verse is part of the narrative of Judah's kings, specifically addressing Joy of renewed worship despite irregularities. 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

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

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

בְּכָל	וְשָׁבָע	וְיַעֲמֹד	מֶלֶךְ	וְיַעֲמֹד	בְּכָל
H3605	H8269	H4428	H4428	H4428	H1980
So the posts	with the letters	from	of the king	and his princes	and Israel
H7323	H107	H3027	H4428	H8269	H3478
וְיַהְזִיד	וְיַעֲמֹד	וְכִמְצֵא	וְיַעֲמֹד	לְאָמֵן	וְיַשְׁבָא
the	the	the	the	the	to
H3063	H4687	H4687	H4428	H559	H3478
and Judah	and according to the commandment	of the king	of the king	saying	and Israel
H3478	H4428	H4428	H4428	H559	H3478
בָּנִים	וְיַשְׁבָא	וְיַשְׁבָב	אֶל	אֱלֹהִי	בָּנִים
Ye children	and Israel	and he will return	unto the LORD	God	Ye children
H1121	H3478	H7725	H3068	H430	H1121
אֶבְרָהָם	וְיַשְׁבָא	וְיַשְׁבָב	אֶל	הַפְּלִיטִים	אֶבְרָהָם
of Abraham	Isaac	and Israel	and he will return	the	of you that are escaped
H85	H3327	H3478	H7725	H6413	H85
רָתָה	וְיַשְׁבָב	וְיַשְׁבָב	אֶל	אֶשְׁוֹר:	אֶבְרָהָם
to the remnant	לְכָמָד	מִכְמָדָה	מֶלֶךְ	מֶלֶךְ	Isaac
H7604	H0	H3709	H4428	H804	H3327
out of the hand	of the king	of the king	of Assyria		

Additional Cross-References

Jeremiah 4:1 (References Lord): If thou wilt return, O Israel, saith the LORD, return unto me: and if thou wilt put away thine abominations out of my sight, then shalt thou not remove.

Jeremiah 51:31 (Kingdom): One post shall run to meet another, and one messenger to meet another, to shew the king of Babylon that his city is taken at one end,

2 Kings 15:29 (Kingdom): In the days of Pekah king of Israel came Tiglath-pileser king of Assyria, and took Ijon, and Abel-beth-maachah, and Janoah, and Kedesh, and Hazor, and Gilead, and Galilee, all the land of Naphtali, and carried them captive to Assyria.

2 Kings 15:19 (Kingdom): And Pul the king of Assyria came against the land: and Menahem gave Pul a thousand talents of silver, that his hand might be with him to confirm the kingdom in his hand.

Esther 8:14 (Kingdom): So the posts that rode upon mules and camels went out, being hastened and pressed on by the king's commandment. And the decree was given at Shushan the palace.

Job 9:25 (Parallel theme): Now my days are swifter than a post: they flee away, they see no good.

1 Chronicles 5:26 (Kingdom): And the God of Israel stirred up the spirit of Pul king of Assyria, and the spirit of Tilgath-pilneser king of Assyria, and he carried them away, even the Reubenites, and the Gadites, and the half tribe of Manasseh, and brought them unto Halah, and Habor, and Hara, and to the river Gozan, unto this day.

2 Chronicles 28:20 (Kingdom): And Tilgath-pilneser king of Assyria came unto him, and distressed him, but strengthened him not.