

2 Chronicles 32:15

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Now therefore let not Hezekiah deceive you, nor persuade you on this manner, neither yet believe him: for no god of any nation or kingdom was able to deliver his people out of mine hand, and out of the hand of my fathers: how much less shall your God deliver you out of mine hand?

Analysis

Now therefore let not Hezekiah deceive you, nor persuade you on this manner, neither yet believe him: for no god of any nation or kingdom was able to deliver his people out of mine hand, and out of the hand of my fathers: how much less shall your God deliver you out of mine hand?

This verse is part of the narrative of Judah's kings, specifically addressing God's deliverance of the faithful; pride's danger even after blessing. 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

1 John 4:8 — God is love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

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

אֶתְּךָ מִיֹּסֵי יֵת	וְאַל	חִזְקִי הוּא	אֶתְּךָ מִיִּשְׂיָא	אֶל	וְעַתָּה הִ
H853	H408	H408	H5377	H6258	
		Hezekiah	deceive		
		H2396	H5377		
כִּי לֹא	תֵּאֱמָר יֵנוּ	וְאַל	כְּזֹאת		
H0	H3588		H2063	H408	
		you on this manner neither yet believe			
		H539			
גִּוֵּי	כָּל	אֶל וְהִ	כָּל	יֹכֵל	לֹא
H1471	H3605	H433	H3605	H3201	H3808
of any nation		him for no god	was able	Now therefore let not	
		H433	H3201	H3808	
מִדִּי:	מִדִּי:	עַמּוֹ	וְצִילוֹ	וּמַמְלָכָה	הִ
H3027	H3027	H5971	H5337	H4467	
and out of the hand	and out of the hand	his people	deliver	or kingdom	
		H5971	H5337	H4467	
לֹא	אֵלֵהֶיךָ מִכִּי	אֶבֹתַי	אֵל	כִּי	
H3808	H430	H1	H637	H3588	
Now therefore let not	how much less shall your God	of my fathers			
		H1			
מִדִּי:	אֶתְּךָ מִיִּצִּילוֹ				
H3027	H5337				
and out of the hand	deliver				
	H5337				

Additional Cross-References

Exodus 5:2 (Parallel theme): And Pharaoh said, Who is the LORD, that I should obey his voice to let Israel go? I know not the LORD, neither will I let Israel go.

Daniel 3:15 (References God): Now if ye be ready that at what time ye hear the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, and dulcimer, and all kinds of musick, ye fall down and worship the image which I have made; well: but if ye worship not, ye shall be cast the same hour into the midst of a burning fiery furnace; and who is that God that shall deliver you out of my hands?

Isaiah 36:18 (Kingdom): Beware lest Hezekiah persuade you, saying, The LORD will deliver us. Hath any of the gods of the nations delivered his land out of the hand of the king of Assyria?

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