

2 Chronicles 32:5

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Also he strengthened himself, and built up all the wall that was broken, and raised it up to the towers, and another wall without, and repaired Millo in the city of David, and made darts and shields in abundance.

Analysis

Also he strengthened himself, and built up all the wall that was broken, and raised it up to the towers, and another wall without, and repaired Millo in the city of David, and made darts and shields in abundance.

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

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

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

וַיַּעֲמֹד	וַיַּעֲמֹד	אַתָּה	כָּל	בָּחוּמָה	הַפְּרֹזֵץ	הַ
Also he strengthened	himself and built up	H853	H3605	all the wall	that was broken	H6555
H2388	H1129			H2346		H312
וַיַּעֲלֵה	וְמִגְּדָל	וְתַּחַת	עַל	וְלֹא	אַחֲרָת	בָּחוּמָה
and raised it up	H5921	to the towers	H4026	without	H2346	and another
H5927			H2351		H312	
וַיַּעֲמֹד	וְמִלּוֹן	וְאַתָּה	בְּמִלְלָה	עַד	לְתַּחַת	שָׁלָשׁ
Also he strengthened	H853	Millo	H4407	in the city	H1732	and made
H2388				H5892	H1732	H7973
בְּמִלְלָה	וְמִלְלָה					
in abundance	and shields	H4043				
H7230						

Additional Cross-References

2 Chronicles 25:23 (Parallel theme): And Joash the king of Israel took Amaziah king of Judah, the son of Joash, the son of Jehoahaz, at Beth-shemesh, and brought him to Jerusalem, and brake down the wall of Jerusalem from the gate of Ephraim to the corner gate, four hundred cubits.

1 Kings 9:24 (References David): But Pharaoh's daughter came up out of the city of David unto her house which Solomon had built for her: then did he build Millo.

2 Kings 25:4 (Parallel theme): And the city was broken up, and all the men of war fled by night by the way of the gate between two walls, which is by the king's garden: (now the Chaldees were against the city round about:) and the king went the way toward the plain.

2 Samuel 5:9 (References David): So David dwelt in the fort, and called it the city of David. And David built round about from Millo and inward.

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