

2 Chronicles 34:28

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Behold, I will gather thee to thy fathers, and thou shalt be gathered to thy grave in peace, neither shall thine eyes see all the evil that I will bring upon this place, and upon the inhabitants of the same. So they brought the king word again.

Analysis

Behold, I will gather thee to thy fathers, and thou shalt be gathered to thy grave in peace, neither shall thine eyes see all the evil that I will bring upon this place, and upon the inhabitants of the same. So they brought the king word again.

This verse is part of the narrative of Judah's kings, specifically addressing God's Word driving comprehensive spiritual renewal. 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

James 2:17 — Faith and works

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

הִנֵּנִי	וְנִאָּסַפְתִּי	אֵל	אֲבֹתַי יְיָ	וְנִאָּסַפְתִּי	אֵל
H2005	Behold I will gather	H413	thee to thy fathers	Behold I will gather	H413
	H622		H1	H622	
קְבֻרֹתַי	בְּשָׁלוֹם	וְלֹא	תִרְאֶה יְיָ	עֵינַי יְיָ	בְּכֹל
to thy grave	in peace	H3808	see	neither shall thine eyes	H3605
H6913	H7965		H7200	H5869	
הָרָעָה	אֲנִי	יָבִיא	עַל	הַמָּקוֹם	הַזֶּה
all the evil	H834	H589	that I will bring	H5921	H2088
H7451			H935	H4725	H5921
וְעַל	יֹשְׁבֵי	אֶת	הַמֶּלֶךְ	דְּבַר:	
	and upon the inhabitants	again	the king	word	
	H3427	H7725	H853	H4428	H1697

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 39:8 (Word): Then said Hezekiah to Isaiah, Good is the word of the LORD which thou hast spoken. He said moreover, For there shall be peace and truth in my days.

Psalms 37:37 (Peace): Mark the perfect man, and behold the upright: for the end of that man is peace.

Jeremiah 15:1 (Parallel theme): Then said the LORD unto me, Though Moses and Samuel stood before me, yet my mind could not be toward this people: cast them out of my sight, and let them go forth.

2 Chronicles 35:24 (Parallel theme): His servants therefore took him out of that chariot, and put him in the second chariot that he had; and they brought him to

Jerusalem, and he died, and was buried in one of the sepulchres of his fathers. And all Judah and Jerusalem mourned for Josiah.

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