

2 Chronicles 35:25

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Jeremiah lamented for Josiah: and all the singing men and the singing women spake of Josiah in their lamentations to this day, and made them an ordinance in Israel: and, behold, they are written in the lamentations.

Analysis

And Jeremiah lamented for Josiah: and all the singing men and the singing women spake of Josiah in their lamentations to this day, and made them an ordinance in Israel: and, behold, they are written in the lamentations.

This verse is part of the narrative of Judah's kings, specifically addressing Greatest worship celebration since Samuel's time. 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

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

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

לְקַיּוֹת וְיִרְמַיָּהוּ וְיְאָשֵׁי וְיִאמְרֶת לְקַיּוֹת וְיִרְמַיָּהוּ וְיְאָשֵׁי וְיִאמְרֶת	לְקַיּוֹת וְיִרְמַיָּהוּ וְיְאָשֵׁי וְיִאמְרֶת לְקַיּוֹת וְיִרְמַיָּהוּ וְיְאָשֵׁי וְיִאמְרֶת	לְקַיּוֹת וְיִרְמַיָּהוּ וְיְאָשֵׁי וְיִאמְרֶת לְקַיּוֹת וְיִרְמַיָּהוּ וְיְאָשֵׁי וְיִאמְרֶת	לְקַיּוֹת וְיִרְמַיָּהוּ וְיְאָשֵׁי וְיִאמְרֶת לְקַיּוֹת וְיִרְמַיָּהוּ וְיְאָשֵׁי וְיִאמְרֶת					
lamented H6969	And Jeremiah H3414	H5921 for Josiah H2977	spake H559	H3605				
and all the singing men H7891		and all the singing men H7891		in the lamentations H7015	על H5921			
for Josiah H2977		to this day H3117		and made H5414		them an ordinance H2706	לְקַיּוֹת H5921	על H3478
וְיִהְבָּשְׁ H2005		קְטוּבָם H3789		עַל H5921		פְּקִיּוֹת: H7015		
and behold they are written								

Additional Cross-References

Jeremiah 22:10 (Parallel theme): Weep ye not for the dead, neither bemoan him: but weep sore for him that goeth away: for he shall return no more, nor see his native country.

Lamentations 4:20 (Parallel theme): The breath of our nostrils, the anointed of the LORD, was taken in their pits, of whom we said, Under his shadow we shall live among the heathen.

Job 3:8 (Parallel theme): Let them curse it that curse the day, who are ready to raise up their mourning.

Matthew 9:23 (Parallel theme): And when Jesus came into the ruler's house, and saw the minstrels and the people making a noise,

