

2 Kings 1:11

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Again also he sent unto him another captain of fifty with his fifty. And he answered and said unto him, O man of God, thus hath the king said, Come down quickly.

Analysis

Again also he sent unto him another captain of fifty with his fifty. And he answered and said unto him, O man of God, thus hath the king said, Come down quickly.

This verse contributes to the overall theme of chapter 1: Divine judgment on apostasy and affirmation of prophetic authority. The divine name emphasizes Yahweh's covenant relationship with Israel and His sovereign control over historical events. The reference to kingship reminds readers that all human authority is subordinate to God's ultimate kingship. The prophetic ministry served as God's primary means of covenant enforcement, calling both kings and people to faithfulness. During this period, Israel and Judah struggled with persistent idolatry, particularly Baal worship introduced under Ahab and Jezebel.

The narrative demonstrates God's justice in judging covenant unfaithfulness while maintaining His ultimate purposes for redemption.

Historical Context

Historical Setting: 2 Kings 1 takes place during the mid-9th century BCE, around 850 BCE, during the transition from Elijah to Elisha. The chapter's theme (Ahaziah's Illness and Elijah's Final Confrontations) reflects the historical reality of prophetic succession and divine affirmation of Elisha's ministry following Elijah's

remarkable translation. Archaeological evidence from this period includes royal inscriptions, administrative documents, and material culture that corroborate the biblical account while providing additional context for understanding the political and social dynamics at work.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. How does this verse contribute to understanding the theological message of 2 Kings 1 regarding divine judgment on apostasy and affirmation of prophetic authority?
2. What does this passage reveal about God's character, particularly His justice, mercy, and faithfulness to covenant promises?
3. In what practical ways should this text shape contemporary Christian thinking about faithfulness, worship, and obedience to God?

Interlinear Text

וַיֵּשָׁב	וַיִּשְׁלַח	אֶל יוֹ	שָׂר	וְחִמְשָׁיִם	אֵלָיו	וְחִמְשָׁיִם
Again	also he sent	H413	captain	of fifty	unto him another	of fifty
H7725	H7971		H8269	H2572	H312	H2572
וַיַּעַן	וַיֹּדֶבֶר	אֶל יוֹ	אֶת יֵשׁ	הָאֱלֹהִים	כֹּה	אָמַר
And he answered	and said	H413	unto him O man	of God	H3541	said
H6030	H1696		H376	H430		H559
כֹּה:	מְהֵרָה	הַמֶּלֶךְ				
Come down	quickly	thus hath the king				
H3381	H4120	H4428				

