

2 Kings 10:17

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And when he came to Samaria, he slew all that remained unto Ahab in Samaria, till he had destroyed him, according to the saying of the LORD, which he spake to Elijah.

Analysis

And when he came to Samaria, he slew all that remained unto Ahab in Samaria, till he had destroyed him, according to the saying of the LORD, which he spake to Elijah.

This verse contributes to the overall theme of chapter 10: Zeal for God without heart transformation. The divine name emphasizes Yahweh's covenant relationship with Israel and His sovereign control over historical events. 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 10 takes place during Jehu's dynasty and the violent purge of Baal worship, around 841 BCE. The chapter's theme (Jehu's Purge Continues) reflects the historical reality of violent political revolution motivated by zeal for Yahweh but lacking genuine heart transformation. 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

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Study Questions

1. How does this verse contribute to understanding the theological message of 2 Kings 10 regarding zeal for god without heart transformation?
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

וַיָּבֹא	וְשָׁמַר וְלֹא	אֶת	כָּל	בַּנְשָׁאָר יִם	בְּאַחֲרָיו
And when he came	in Samaria	he slew	H853	H3605	all that remained
H935	H8111	H5221		H7604	unto Ahab
					H256
וְשָׁמַר וְלֹא	עַד	הַשְׁמַד וְ	פָּגַע בָּרָא	וְ	יְהִי הָ
in Samaria	H5704	till he had destroyed	him according to the saying	of the LORD	
H8111		H8045	H1697		H3068
אֶלְהָה:	אֶל	אֶלְהָה:	אֶל		
which he spoke	H413	to Elijah	H452		
H834					

Additional Cross-References

2 Kings 9:8 (Parallel theme): For the whole house of Ahab shall perish: and I will cut off from Ahab him that pisseth against the wall, and him that is shut up and left in Israel:

2 Chronicles 22:8 (Parallel theme): And it came to pass, that, when Jehu was executing judgment upon the house of Ahab, and found the princes of Judah, and the sons of the brethren of Ahaziah, that ministered to Ahaziah, he slew them.

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