

2 Kings 10:19

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Now therefore call unto me all the prophets of Baal, all his servants, and all his priests; let none be wanting: for I have a great sacrifice to do to Baal; whosoever shall be wanting, he shall not live. But Jehu did it in subtilty, to the intent that he might destroy the worshippers of Baal.

Analysis

Now therefore call unto me all the prophets of Baal, all his servants, and all his priests; let none be wanting: for I have a great sacrifice to do to Baal; whosoever shall be wanting, he shall not live. But Jehu did it in subtilty, to the intent that he might destroy the worshippers of Baal.

This verse contributes to the overall theme of chapter 10: Zeal for God without heart transformation. 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 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 John 4:8 — God is 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

כִּי יִפְקַד אֱלֹהִים אֲלֹהִים כִּי יִרְאָה וְאֲלֹהִים יְשַׁאֲבָד וְאֲלֹהִים יְהִי כִּי יִהְבָּזֵב
 and all his priests Now therefore call H413 let none H408 be wanting H3588
 H3548 H7121 H376 H6485

ל	א	יפק	ד	אשר	כ	ל	הבעל	ל	גד	ול	ז	בָּח
sacrifice	for I have a great			of Baal	H3605		H834		be wanting			H3808
H2077	H1119			H1168					H6485			

לֹم עַז בְּעֵקֶב הַיְחִינָה שָׁש הַיְהֹוא יְחִינָה H4616
he shall not live But Jehu did it in subtlety H2421 H3058 H6213 H6122

בְּאֵבֶן	אֶת	אֲבָדֵן	בְּבָעֵל
to the intent that he might destroy	H853	all his servants	of Baal

Additional Cross-References

1 Kings 22:6 (Prophecy): Then the king of Israel gathered the prophets together, about four hundred men, and said unto them, Shall I go against Ramoth-gilead to battle, or shall I forbear? And they said, Go up; for the Lord shall deliver it into the hand of the king.

1 Kings 18:19 (Prophecy): Now therefore send, and gather to me all Israel unto mount Carmel, and the prophets of Baal four hundred and fifty, and the prophets of the groves four hundred, which eat at Jezebel's table.