

2 Kings 10:24

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And when they went in to offer sacrifices and burnt offerings, Jehu appointed fourscore men without, and said, If any of the men whom I have brought into your hands escape, he that letteth him go, his life shall be for the life of him.

Analysis

And when they went in to offer sacrifices and burnt offerings, Jehu appointed fourscore men without, and said, If any of the men whom I have brought into your hands escape, he that letteth him go, his life shall be for the life of him.

This verse contributes to the overall theme of chapter 10: Zeal for God without heart transformation. 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

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

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

וְיֵה אָ	וְיֵל וְתָ	זָבֵח יִם	לְעַש וְתָ	מִבְּאָ	וְיֵה אָ	וְיֵל וְתָ	זָבֵח יִם	לְעַש וְתָ	מִבְּאָ
And when they went in	to offer	sacrifices	and burnt offerings	Jehu					
H935	H6213	H2077	H5930	H3058					
אֲשֶׁר נִאָנְשׁ יִם לְזָבֵח יִם שְׁמַנְיִם בְּחַזֵּז לְזָבֵח יִם שְׁמַנְיִם בְּחַזֵּז									
appointed	without	fourscore	If any	and said	If any				
H7760	H0	H2351	H8084	H376	H559	H376			
עַל מִבְּאָ	אֲשֶׁר נִאָנְשׁ יִם מִן יְמִלָּט								
escape	If any								
H4480	H834	H589							
And when they went in									
H935									
וְיֵל כְּתָנְפֵשׁוּ: יְדִיכְם									
into your hands	he that letteth him go his life								
H3027	H5315	H8478							
he that letteth him go his life									
H5315									

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