

2 Kings 10:31

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But Jehu took no heed to walk in the law of the LORD God of Israel with all his heart: for he departed not from the sins of Jeroboam, which made Israel to sin.

Analysis

But Jehu took no heed to walk in the law of the LORD God of Israel with all his heart: for he departed not from the sins of Jeroboam, which made Israel to sin.

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

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 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

אֱלֹהִי יְהוָה בְּתוֹרַת לֹא שָׁמַר לְלִכְתָּב שְׁמֵר וְאַתָּה
But Jehu H3808 took no heed H1980 in the law H8451 of the LORD H3068 God H430

מַעַל שְׁרָאֵל לֹא בְּכָל יְבָבֵן לְרֹא שְׁרָאֵל
of Israel H3605 with all his heart H3808 for he departed H5493 H5921

אַתָּה בְּקַרְבָּן יְהוָה אֲשֶׁר יְבָבֵעַ מִתְּאֹת שְׁרָאֵל:
not from the sins of Jeroboam H834 to sin H2398 H853 of Israel H3478

Additional Cross-References

2 Kings 10:29 (Creation): Howbeit from the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who made Israel to sin, Jehu departed not from after them, to wit, the golden calves that were in Beth-el, and that were in Dan.

Proverbs 4:23 (Parallel theme): Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.

Hebrews 2:1 (Parallel theme): Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them slip.

Psalms 78:10 (Word): They kept not the covenant of God, and refused to walk in his law;