

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

אֱלֹהֵי	יְהוָה	בְּתוֹכָהּ	לֹלָכָהּ	שָׁמַר	לֹא	וַיֵּה וְאֵל
God	of the LORD	in the law	H1980	took no heed	H3808	But Jehu
H430	H3068	H8451		H8104		H3058
מֵעַל	סָר	לֹא	לִבּוֹ	בְּכָל	יִשְׂרָאֵל:	
H5921	for he departed	H3808	with all his heart	H3605	of Israel	
	H5493		H3824		H3478	
יִשְׂרָאֵל:	אֶת	הַחֵטִּיּא	אֲשֶׁר	יָרְבֵּעַ	חֲטֵי	אוֹת
of Israel	את	to sin	H834	of Jeroboam	not from the sins	
H3478	H853	H2398		H3379	H2403	

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;

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