

2 Kings 10:32

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

In those days the LORD began to cut Israel short: and Hazael smote them in all the coasts of Israel;

Analysis

In those days the LORD began to cut Israel short: and Hazael smote them in all the coasts of Israel;

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

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

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

בְּיָמֵי	הָיָה	לַיהוָה	לְקָצוֹת	יִשְׂרָאֵל:	וַיִּכּוֹת	
In those days	H1992	began	the LORD	short	Israel	smote
H3117		H2490	H3068	H7096	H3478	H5221
וַיִּכּוֹת	בְּכָל	גֹּב וְלֹ	יִשְׂרָאֵל:			
and Hazael	H3605	them in all the coasts	Israel			
H2371		H1366	H3478			

Additional Cross-References

1 Kings 19:17 (Parallel theme): And it shall come to pass, that him that escapeth the sword of Hazael shall Jehu slay: and him that escapeth from the sword of Jehu shall Elisha slay.

2 Kings 8:12 (References Lord): And Hazael said, Why weepeth my lord? And he answered, Because I know the evil that thou wilt do unto the children of Israel: their strong holds wilt thou set on fire, and their young men wilt thou slay with the sword, and wilt dash their children, and rip up their women with child.

2 Kings 13:22 (References Israel): But Hazael king of Syria oppressed Israel all the days of Jehoahaz.

2 Kings 13:25 (References Israel): And Jehoash the son of Jehoahaz took again out of the hand of Ben-hadad the son of Hazael the cities, which he had taken out of the hand of Jehoahaz his father by war. Three times did Joash beat him, and recovered the cities of Israel.

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