

2 Kings 11:16

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And they laid hands on her; and she went by the way by the which the horses came into the king's house: and there was she slain.

Analysis

And they laid hands on her; and she went by the way by the which the horses came into the king's house: and there was she slain.

This verse contributes to the overall theme of chapter 11: Preservation of Davidic line and covenant faithfulness. The reference to kingship reminds readers that all human authority is subordinate to God's ultimate kingship. This passage occurs during the decline toward Israel's exile, demonstrating how persistent covenant unfaithfulness leads to national disaster.

The narrative demonstrates God's justice in judging covenant unfaithfulness while maintaining His ultimate purposes for redemption.

Historical Context

Historical Setting: 2 Kings 11 takes place during the declining years of the northern kingdom, 8th century BCE, culminating in exile in 722 BCE. The chapter's theme (Athaliah's Usurpation and Downfall) reflects the historical reality of progressive political instability and external threats, particularly from Aram (Syria) and later Assyria. 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

Study Questions

1. How does this verse contribute to understanding the theological message of 2 Kings 11 regarding preservation of davidic line and covenant faithfulness?
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

וַיֵּשׁ מוֹ	לָהּ	יָדַיִם	וַתֵּב וְאֵ	דֶּרֶךְ	מֵב וְאֵ
And they laid		hands	on her and she went	by the way	came
H7760	H0	H3027	H935	H1870	H3996
בַּיָּדֹסִים	בֵּית	הַמֶּלֶךְ	וַתִּהְיֶה	שָׁם:	
by the which the horses	house	into the king's	and there was she slain		
H5483	H1004	H4428	H4191	H8033	

Additional Cross-References

Genesis 9:6 (Parallel theme): Whoso sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed: for in the image of God made he man.