

2 Kings 11:6

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And a third part shall be at the gate of Sur; and a third part at the gate behind the guard: so shall ye keep the watch of the house, that it be not broken down.

Analysis

And a third part shall be at the gate of Sur; and a third part at the gate behind the guard: so shall ye keep the watch of the house, that it be not broken down.

This verse contributes to the overall theme of chapter 11: Preservation of Davidic line and covenant faithfulness. 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

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

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 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

וְהִשְׁלֵשׁ יֵת	בֵּשֶׁ עַר	ס וֹר	וְהִשְׁלֵשׁ יֵת	בֵּשֶׁ עַר	אַחֲרֵי
And a third part	at the gate	of Sur	And a third part	at the gate	behind
H7992	H8179	H5495	H7992	H8179	H310

הַרְצֵ יֵם	וְשָׁמְרֶתֶם	אֶת	מִשְׁמֶרֶת	הַבַּיִת
the guard	so shall ye keep	H853	the watch	of the house
H7323	H8104		H4931	H1004

מִסָּחָה
that it be not broken down
H4535