

2 Kings 12:20

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And his servants arose, and made a conspiracy, and slew Joash in the house of Millo, which goeth down to Silla.

Analysis

And his servants arose, and made a conspiracy, and slew Joash in the house of Millo, which goeth down to Silla.

This verse contributes to the overall theme of chapter 12: Religious reform and temple restoration. 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 12 takes place during the declining years of the northern kingdom, 8th century BCE, culminating in exile in 722 BCE. The chapter's theme (Joash Repairs the Temple) 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

Romans 2:1 – Judging others

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. How does this verse contribute to understanding the theological message of 2 Kings 12 regarding religious reform and temple restoration?
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

וְאֵשׁ	אֶת	יְהוָה	קָרְבָּן	עָבֹד	וְקִשְׁרָה							
arose	And his servants	and made	a conspiracy	and slew								
H6965	H5650	H7194	H7195	H5221								

Additional Cross-References

2 Kings 14:5 (Parallel theme): And it came to pass, as soon as the kingdom was confirmed in his hand, that he slew his servants which had slain the king his father.

2 Samuel 5:9 (Parallel theme): So David dwelt in the fort, and called it the city of David. And David built round about from Millo and inward.

Judges 9:6 (Creation): And all the men of Shechem gathered together, and all the house of Millo, and went, and made Abimelech king, by the plain of the pillar that was in Shechem.

