

# 2 Kings 13:23

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the LORD was gracious unto them, and had compassion on them, and had respect unto them, because of his covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and would not destroy them, neither cast he them from his presence as yet.

## Analysis

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**And the LORD was gracious unto them, and had compassion on them, and had respect unto them, because of his covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and would not destroy them, neither cast he them from his presence as yet.**

This verse contributes to the overall theme of chapter 13: God's patience with recurring apostasy. The divine name emphasizes Yahweh's covenant relationship with Israel and His sovereign control over historical events. The prophetic ministry served as God's primary means of covenant enforcement, calling both kings and people to 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

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**Historical Setting:** 2 Kings 13 takes place during the declining years of the northern kingdom, 8th century BCE, culminating in exile in 722 BCE. The chapter's theme (Decline of Israel and Judah) 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

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**Ephesians 2:8** — Salvation by grace through faith

**Romans 10:9** — Confession and belief for salvation

## Study Questions

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1. How does this verse contribute to understanding the theological message of 2 Kings 13 regarding god's patience with recurring apostasy?
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

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וְיָחַן	יְהוָה ה	אֶת־ם	וְיִרְחַמֵּם	
was gracious	And the LORD	H854	unto them and had compassion	
H2603	H3068		H7355	
וְיָפֶן	אֶלֶיהֶם	לְמַעַן	בְּרִיתִי	אֶת־ם
on them and had respect	H413	unto them because of	his covenant	H854
H6437		H4616	H1285	
וְאֲבְרָהָם	יִצְחָק	וְיַעֲקֹב	וְלֹא	הַשְׁחִיתָם
with Abraham	Isaac	and Jacob	H3808	and would not destroy
H85	H3327	H3290	H14	H7843
וְהַשְׁלִיכָם	מֵעַל	פְּנֵי יוֹ	עַד	עֲתָה׃
them neither cast	H5921	he them from his presence	as yet	H6258
H7993		H6440	H5704	

## Additional Cross-References

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**Psalms 105:8** (Covenant): He hath remembered his covenant for ever, the word which he commanded to a thousand generations.

**2 Kings 14:27** (References Lord): And the LORD said not that he would blot out the name of Israel from under heaven: but he saved them by the hand of Jeroboam the son of Joash.

**Psalms 86:15** (Grace): But thou, O Lord, art a God full of compassion, and gracious, longsuffering, and plenteous in mercy and truth.

**1 Kings 8:28** (References Lord): Yet have thou respect unto the prayer of thy servant, and to his supplication, O LORD my God, to hearken unto the cry and to the prayer, which thy servant prayeth before thee to day:

**2 Kings 24:20** (References Lord): For through the anger of the LORD it came to pass in Jerusalem and Judah, until he had cast them out from his presence, that Zedekiah rebelled against the king of Babylon.

**2 Kings 17:18** (References Lord): Therefore the LORD was very angry with Israel, and removed them out of his sight: there was none left but the tribe of Judah only.

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