

2 Kings 13:25

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

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.

Analysis

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.

This verse contributes to the overall theme of chapter 13: God's patience with recurring apostasy. 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

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

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Study Questions

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

עָרִים אֶת לְקָנָה יְהוָה שׁוֹבֵעַ
again And Jehoash the son of Jehoahaz took H853 the cities
H7725 H3060 H1121 H3059 H3947 H5892

לְקָנָה אֲשֶׁר סְזָאָל מִידָּה
out of the hand of Benhadad the son of Hazael took H834
H3027 H1130 H1121 H2371 H3947

שָׁלָשׁ בְּמִלְחָמָה הָאָבִי יְהוָה זֶה מִידָּה
out of the hand of Jehoahaz his father by war Three times
H3027 H3059 H1 H4421 H7969 H6471

יִשְׂרָאֵל: עָרִים יְהוָה שׁוֹבֵעַ הַכְּהוֹן
beat did Joash again H853 the cities of Israel
H5221 H3101 H7725 H5892 H3478

Additional Cross-References

2 Kings 10:32 (References Israel): In those days the LORD began to cut Israel short: and Hazael smote them in all the coasts of Israel;

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