

2 Kings 14:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

He slew of Edom in the valley of salt ten thousand, and took Selah by war, and called the name of it Joktheel unto this day.

Analysis

He slew of Edom in the valley of salt ten thousand, and took Selah by war, and called the name of it Joktheel unto this day.

This verse contributes to the overall theme of chapter 14: Pride leads to downfall; God's mercy continues. 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 14 takes place during the declining years of the northern kingdom, 8th century BCE, culminating in exile in 722 BCE. The chapter's theme (Amaziah of Judah and Jeroboam II) 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

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. How does this verse contribute to understanding the theological message of 2 Kings 14 regarding pride leads to downfall; god's mercy continues?
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

אֶלָּפֶן יָמִים עֶשֶׂר רְתָה הַחַלְעָה לְחַלְעָה
H1931 He slew H853 of Edom H123 in the valley H1516 of salt H4417 ten H6235 thousand H505

שָׁמָה אֶת יְהִי אֶת בְּמִלְחָמָה הַבָּסָלָטָה וְתַפְפַשְׁתָה
and took H853 Selah H5554 by war H4421 and called H853 the name H8034

לְיְהִי יְמִים בָּסָלָטָה כִּי יְמִים בָּסָלָטָה
of it Joktheel H5704 unto this day H2088

Additional Cross-References

2 Samuel 8:13 (Parallel theme): And David gat him a name when he returned from smiting of the Syrians in the valley of salt, being eighteen thousand men.

1 Chronicles 18:12 (Parallel theme): Moreover Abishai the son of Zeruiah slew of the Edomites in the valley of salt eighteen thousand.

Joshua 15:38 (Parallel theme): And Dilean, and Mizpeh, and Joktheel,

Psalms 60:1 (Parallel theme): O God, thou hast cast us off, thou hast scattered us, thou hast been displeased; O turn thyself to us again.

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