

2 Kings 14:9

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Jehoash the king of Israel sent to Amaziah king of Judah, saying, The thistle that was in Lebanon sent to the cedar that was in Lebanon, saying, Give thy daughter to my son to wife: and there passed by a wild beast that was in Lebanon, and trode down the thistle.

Analysis

And Jehoash the king of Israel sent to Amaziah king of Judah, saying, The thistle that was in Lebanon sent to the cedar that was in Lebanon, saying, Give thy daughter to my son to wife: and there passed by a wild beast that was in Lebanon, and trode down the thistle.

This verse contributes to the overall theme of chapter 14: Pride leads to downfall; God's mercy continues. The reference to kingship reminds readers that all human authority is subordinate to God's ultimate kingship. 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

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

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

שֶׁ לַח	יְהוֹאָשׁ	מֶלֶךְ	יִשְׂרָאֵל	אֶל	אֲמַצְיָהּ	מֶלֶךְ	יְהוּדָה
sent	And Jehoash	king	of Israel	H413	to Amaziah	king	of Judah
H7971	H3060	H4428	H3478		H558	H4428	H3063
לֵאמֹר	הַתְּחֹמֶ:	אֲשֶׁר	בְּלִבָּנוֹן	שֶׁ לַח	אֶל	הָרִזִּי	
saying	The thistle	H834	that was in Lebanon	sent	H413	to the cedar	
H559	H2336		H3844	H7971		H730	
אֲשֶׁר	בְּלִבָּנוֹן	לֵאמֹר	תִּתֵּן	אֶת	בִּתְּךָ	לְבִנִי	
H834	that was in Lebanon	saying	Give	H853	thy daughter	to my son	
	H3844	H559	H5414		H1323	H1121	
לְאִשָּׁה	וַתַּעֲבֹר	חַיֵּת	הַשָּׂדֶה	אֲשֶׁר	בְּלִבָּנוֹן		
to wife	and there passed	beast	by a wild	H834	that was in Lebanon		
H802	H5674	H2416	H7704		H3844		
וַתְּרַמֵּס	אֶת	הַתְּחֹמֶ:					
and trode down	H853	The thistle					
H7429		H2336					