

2 Kings 15:16

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then Menahem smote Tiphseh, and all that were therein, and the coasts thereof from Tirzah: because they opened not to him, therefore he smote it; and all the women therein that were with child he ripped up.

Analysis

Then Menahem smote Tiphseh, and all that were therein, and the coasts thereof from Tirzah: because they opened not to him, therefore he smote it; and all the women therein that were with child he ripped up.

This verse contributes to the overall theme of chapter 15: Political chaos reveals spiritual bankruptcy. 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 15 takes place during the declining years of the northern kingdom, 8th century BCE, culminating in exile in 722 BCE. The chapter's theme (Rapid Succession and Instability) 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

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Study Questions

1. How does this verse contribute to understanding the theological message of 2 Kings 15 regarding political chaos reveals spiritual bankruptcy?
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

אֶז	וַיִּךְ	מִנְחֵם	אֶת	תִּפְסָח	וְאֶת	כָּל
H227	not to him therefore he smote	Then Menahem	H853	Tiphsah	H853	H3605
	H5221	H4505		H8607		
אֲשֶׁר	בָּהּ	וְאֶת	גְּבוּלֵי יָם	מִתִּרְצָה		
H834	H0	H853	and all that were therein and the coasts	thereof from Tirzah		
			H1366	H8656		
כִּי	לֹא	פָתַח	וַיִּךְ	אֶת	כָּל	
H3588	H3808	because they opened	not to him therefore he smote	H853	H3605	
		H6605	H5221			
	וְהָרָוָה	בִּקְעָה				
	it and all the women therein that were with child	he ripped up				
	H2030	H1234				

Additional Cross-References

2 Kings 8:12 (Parallel theme): And Hazael said, Why weepeth my lord? And he answered, Because I know the evil that thou wilt do unto the children of Israel: their strong holds wilt thou set on fire, and their young men wilt thou slay with the sword, and wilt dash their children, and rip up their women with child.

1 Kings 4:24 (Parallel theme): For he had dominion over all the region on this side the river, from Tiphshah even to Azzah, over all the kings on this side the river: and he had peace on all sides round about him.

Hosea 13:16 (Parallel theme): Samaria shall become desolate; for she hath rebelled against her God: they shall fall by the sword: their infants shall be dashed in pieces, and their women with child shall be ripped up.

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