

2 Kings 15:19

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Pul the king of Assyria came against the land: and Menahem gave Pul a thousand talents of silver, that his hand might be with him to confirm the kingdom in his hand.

Analysis

And Pul the king of Assyria came against the land: and Menahem gave Pul a thousand talents of silver, that his hand might be with him to confirm the kingdom in his hand.

This verse contributes to the overall theme of chapter 15: Political chaos reveals spiritual bankruptcy. 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 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

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

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

אָבָא	וּלְפָא	מֶלֶךְ	אַשּׁוּר	עַל	הָאָרֶץ	וַתֵּן	מִנַּחֵם
came	And Pul	the king	of Assyria	H5921	against the land	gave	and Menahem
H935	H6322	H4428	H804		H776	H5414	H4505
וּלְפָא	אַלְפָא	כֶּכֶר	כֶּסֶף	לְהִי	בְיָדוֹ	אֶת	ו
And Pul	a thousand	talents	of silver	H1961	in his hand	H854	
H6322	H505	H3603	H3701		H3027		
לְהִי	מֶלֶךְ	הַמֶּלֶךְ	בְּיָדוֹ				
might be with him to confirm	the kingdom	in his hand					
H2388	H4467	H3027					

Additional Cross-References

2 Kings 14:5 (Kingdom): And it came to pass, as soon as the kingdom was confirmed in his hand, that he slew his servants which had slain the king his father.

2 Kings 18:16 (Kingdom): At that time did Hezekiah cut off the gold from the doors of the temple of the LORD, and from the pillars which Hezekiah king of Judah had overlaid, and gave it to the king of Assyria.

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