

2 Kings 16:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

So Ahaz sent messengers to Tiglath-pileser king of Assyria, saying, I am thy servant and thy son: come up, and save me out of the hand of the king of Syria, and out of the hand of the king of Israel, which rise up against me.

Analysis

So Ahaz sent messengers to Tiglath-pileser king of Assyria, saying, I am thy servant and thy son: come up, and save me out of the hand of the king of Syria, and out of the hand of the king of Israel, which rise up against me.

This verse contributes to the overall theme of chapter 16: Desperate alliances and religious compromise. 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 16 takes place during the declining years of the northern kingdom, 8th century BCE, culminating in exile in 722 BCE. The chapter's theme (Ahaz's Apostasy) reflects the historical reality of desperate political alliances and religious syncretism as Judah faced external threats.

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 16 regarding desperate alliances and religious compromise?
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

וַשְׁלַח	אֶחָד	מֵלָאָכִים	אֶל	תְּגִלְתִּיפֶזֶר	כָּל־סָר	מֶלֶךְ
sent	So Ahaz	messengers	H413	H0	to Tiglathpileser	king
H7971	H271	H4397			H8407	H4428
אֲשׁוּר	יֹאמַר	עַבְדְּךָ	וּבְנֶךָ	אֶנִּי	עֲלֵה	וְהוֹשַׁעֲנִי
of Assyria	saying	I am thy servant	and thy son	H589	come up	and save
H804	H559	H5650	H1121		H5927	H3467
וּמִכַּף	מֶלֶךְ	אֲרָם	וּמִכַּף	מֶלֶךְ	יִשְׂרָאֵל	
and out of the hand	king	of Syria	and out of the hand	king	of Israel	
H3709	H4428	H758	H3709	H4428	H3478	
עָלֵי:	הַקּוֹמִים	יָם				
H5921	which rise up					
	H6965					

Additional Cross-References

2 Kings 15:29 (Kingdom): In the days of Pekah king of Israel came Tiglath-pileser king of Assyria, and took Ijon, and Abel-beth-maachah, and Janoah, and Kedesh, and Hazor, and Gilead, and Galilee, all the land of Naphtali, and carried them captive to Assyria.