

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

מֶלֶךְ	פֶּלֶסֶר	תְּגִלְתָּה	אֶל	מֶלֶךְ יִם	אַךְ ז	שֵׁל ח
sent H7971	So Ahaz H271	messengers H4397	H413	H0	to Tiglathpileser H8407	king H4428
אָשָׁור	לְאָמֵן	עֲבָדָךְ	לְאָמֵן ר	וּבְנָךְ	אָנָּי	עַל הַ
of Assyria H804	saying H559	I am thy servant H5650		and thy son H1121	H589	come up H5927
וּמְכֹפֶף	אַךְ מֶלֶךְ	וּמְכֹפֶף	מֶלֶךְ	אַךְ מֶלֶךְ	אַךְ מֶלֶךְ	וּמְכֹפֶף
and out of the hand H3709	king H4428	of Syria H758		and out of the hand H3709	king H4428	of Israel H3478
עַלְיָה	בְּקֹרֶם יִם					
which rise up H6965	H5921					

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.

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