

2 Kings 16:9

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the king of Assyria hearkened unto him: for the king of Assyria went up against Damascus, and took it, and carried the people of it captive to Kir, and slew Rezin.

Analysis

And the king of Assyria hearkened unto him: for the king of Assyria went up against Damascus, and took it, and carried the people of it captive to Kir, and slew Rezin.

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

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

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

וַשְׁמָע	אֵלָיו	מֶלֶךְ	אֲשׁוּר	וַיַּעַל	מֶלֶךְ	אֲשׁוּר
hearkened	H413	And the king	of Assyria	went up	And the king	of Assyria
H8085		H4428	H804	H5927	H4428	H804
אֶל	בְּמִשְׁקֵי	וַתִּפֶּשֶׁת	וַיִּגַּל	לְקִירָה		
H413	against Damascus	and took	it and carried the people of it captive	to Kir		
	H1834	H8610	H1540	H7024		
וְאֶת	רִצְיִן	הִמִּיתָ:				
H853	Rezin	and slew				
	H7526	H4191				

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 22:6 (Parallel theme): And Elam bare the quiver with chariots of men and horsemen, and Kir uncovered the shield.

Amos 9:7 (Parallel theme): Are ye not as children of the Ethiopians unto me, O children of Israel? saith the LORD. Have not I brought up Israel out of the land of Egypt? and the Philistines from Caphtor, and the Syrians from Kir?

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