

2 Kings 17:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And they set them up images and groves in every high hill,
and under every green tree:

Analysis

And they set them up images and groves in every high hill, and under every green tree:

This verse contributes to the overall theme of chapter 17: Covenant judgment and exile. 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 17 takes place during the declining years of the northern kingdom, 8th century BCE, culminating in exile in 722 BCE. The chapter's theme (Fall of the Northern Kingdom) reflects the historical reality of the fulfillment of prophetic warnings as the northern kingdom fell to Assyria due to persistent covenant unfaithfulness. 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

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Romans 10:9 – Confession and belief for salvation

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Hebrews 11:1 – Definition of faith

Study Questions

1. How does this verse contribute to understanding the theological message of 2 Kings 17 regarding covenant judgment and exile?
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

וְאֵלֶּה בָּרְיתִי	וְאֵשֶׁר יִמְצָא בָּהּ	וְתַּחֲזִק יְמִינְךָ	וְתַּחֲזִק לְבָנֶךָ									
And they set them up	H0	images	and groves	H5921	H3605	hill						H1389

בְּכָל	אֵת	חַתָּה	גַּבְּהָ	הַ	כָּל	אֵת	חַתָּה	גַּבְּהָ	הַ
in every		H8478		H3605	tree		and under	every	green
	H1364			H6086				H7488	

Additional Cross-References

1 Kings 14:23 (Parallel theme): For they also built them high places, and images, and groves, on every high hill, and under every green tree.

Micah 5:14 (Parallel theme): And I will pluck up thy groves out of the midst of thee: so will I destroy thy cities.

Exodus 34:13 (Parallel theme): But ye shall destroy their altars, break their images, and cut down their groves:

2 Kings 16:4 (Parallel theme): And he sacrificed and burnt incense in the high places, and on the hills, and under every green tree.

From KJV Study • kjvstudy.org