

# 2 Kings 17:30

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the men of Babylon made Succoth-benoth, and the men of Cuth made Nergal, and the men of Hamath made Ashima,

## Analysis

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**And the men of Babylon made Succoth-benoth, and the men of Cuth made Nergal, and the men of Hamath made Ashima,**

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

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**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

## **Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment**

## **Romans 2:1 – Judging others**

## 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

אֶת	אֶבְנֶשׁ	בְּבֵל	עָשָׂה	אֶת	וְתַּסְפִּי	בְּנָה	אֶת	אֶבְנֶשׁ	כָּוֹת	אֶבְנֶשׁ
H376	<b>of Babylon</b>	<b>made</b>	H853	H0	<b>Succothbenoth</b>	H5524	H376	<b>of Cuth</b>		H3575
	H894	H6213								
אֶשְׁיָמָה:	אֶבְנֶשׁ	לְבָנָגָן	אֶת	עָשָׂה	אֶת	חַמְתָּה	אֶבְנֶשׁ	אֶת	אֶשְׁיָמָה:	
<b>made</b>	H853	<b>Nergal</b>	H376	<b>of Hamath</b>	<b>made</b>	H2574	H6213	<b>Ashima</b>		H807
H6213		H5370								

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