

# 2 Kings 17:31

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the Avites made Nibhaz and Tartak, and the Sepharvites burnt their children in fire to Adrammelech and Anammelech, the gods of Sepharvaim.

## Analysis

**And the Avites made Nibhaz and Tartak, and the Sepharvites burnt their children in fire to Adrammelech and Anammelech, the gods of Sepharvaim.**

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

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**Genesis 1:1** — Creation of heavens and earth

**Psalm 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

## Study Questions

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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

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שָׁרֵפָה יְמִינֵי וְסָפָרִים יְמִינֵי תְּרֵתָה קְרֵבָה זְעַמָּה אֶת נְבָמָה וְעַמָּה יְמִינֵי  
And the Avites made Nibhaz and Tartak and the Sepharvites burnt  
H5757 H6213 H5026 H853 H8662 H5616 H8313

אֶת בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל לְאַדְמָלֵךְ לְאַדְמָלֵךְ לְעַמְמָלֵךְ לְעַמְמָלֵךְ אֱלֹהִים  
H853 their children in fire to Adrammelech and Anammelech the gods  
H1121 H784 H152 H6048 H430

סָפָרִים:  
of Sepharvaim  
H5617

## Additional Cross-References

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**2 Kings 17:24** (Parallel theme): And the king of Assyria brought men from Babylon, and from Cuthah, and from Ava, and from Hamath, and from Sepharvaim, and placed them in the cities of Samaria instead of the children of Israel: and they possessed Samaria, and dwelt in the cities thereof.

**2 Kings 17:17** (Parallel theme): And they caused their sons and their daughters to pass through the fire, and used divination and enchantments, and sold themselves to do evil in the sight of the LORD, to provoke him to anger.

**2 Kings 19:37** (References God): And it came to pass, as he was worshipping in the house of Nisroch his god, that Adrammelech and Sharezer his sons smote him with the sword: and they escaped into the land of Armenia. And Esar-haddon his son reigned in his stead.

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