

# 2 Kings 17:33

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

They feared the LORD, and served their own gods, after the manner of the nations whom they carried away from thence.

## Analysis

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**They feared the LORD, and served their own gods, after the manner of the nations whom they carried away from thence.**

This verse contributes to the overall theme of chapter 17: Covenant judgment and exile. The divine name emphasizes Yahweh's covenant relationship with Israel and His sovereign control over historical events. 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

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

**Psalms 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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אֶת	יְהוָה ה	הִי ו	יִרְאָ ים	וְאֵת	אֱלֹהֵיהֶם	הִי ו	עֲבָד ים
H853	the LORD	H1961	H3372	H853	their own gods	H1961	and served
	H3068				H430		H5647
כְּמִשְׁפָּט	הַגּוֹיִם	אֲשֶׁר	הֵגִל ו	מִשָּׁם:	אֶת	ם	
after the manner	of the nations	H834	whom they carried away	H853	H8033		
H4941	H1471		H1540				

## Additional Cross-References

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**Luke 16:13** (References God): No servant can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.

**Matthew 6:24** (References God): No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.

**2 Kings 17:41** (References Lord): So these nations feared the LORD, and served their graven images, both their children, and their children's children: as did their fathers, so do they unto this day.

**1 Kings 18:21** (References God): And Elijah came unto all the people, and said, How long halt ye between two opinions? if the LORD be God, follow him: but if Baal, then follow him. And the people answered him not a word.

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