

2 Kings 17:37

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the statutes, and the ordinances, and the law, and the commandment, which he wrote for you, ye shall observe to do for evermore; and ye shall not fear other gods.

Analysis

And the statutes, and the ordinances, and the law, and the commandment, which he wrote for you, ye shall observe to do for evermore; and ye shall not fear other gods.

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

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

וְאֵת H853	הַחֻקִּים יִם H2706	וְאֵת H853	הַמִּשְׁפָּטִים יִם H4941	וְהַתּוֹכָה H8451	
	And the statutes		and the ordinances	and the law	
	וְהַמִּצְוָה H4687	אֲשֶׁר H834	כָּתַב H3789	לָכֶם H0	תִּשְׁמְרוּ וְ H8104
	and the commandment		which he wrote		for you ye shall observe
לַעֲשׂוֹת H6213	כָּל H3605	הֵמָּה יִם H3117	וְלֹא H3808	תִּירָא וְ H3372	אֱלֹהִים יִם H430
to do		for evermore		and ye shall not fear	gods
					other

Additional Cross-References

Deuteronomy 12:32 (Parallel theme): What thing soever I command you, observe to do it: thou shalt not add thereto, nor diminish from it.

Leviticus 19:37 (Parallel theme): Therefore shall ye observe all my statutes, and all my judgments, and do them: I am the LORD.

