

2 Kings 17:38

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the covenant that I have made with you ye shall not forget; neither shall ye fear other gods.

Analysis

And the covenant that I have made with you ye shall not forget; neither shall ye 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

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

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

וְהַבֵּרְיתִּיתִי	אֲשֶׁר	כִּי	לֹא	אַתְּ	מִ
And the covenant	H834	that I have made	H3772		H3808
H1285					
תִּשְׁכַּחַ	אַל	תִּירְאָ	אֱלֹהִים	אֲחֶרִים:	
with you ye shall not forget	H3808	neither shall ye fear	H3372	gods	other
H7911				H430	H312

Additional Cross-References

Deuteronomy 4:23 (Covenant): Take heed unto yourselves, lest ye forget the covenant of the LORD your God, which he made with you, and make you a graven image, or the likeness of any thing, which the LORD thy God hath forbidden thee.

Deuteronomy 6:12 (Parallel theme): Then beware lest thou forget the LORD, which brought thee forth out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage.

