

# 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

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**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

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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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**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

**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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וְהָבָר יִתְּ	אֲשֶׁר	כָּבֹדִי	אֲתָךְ מִ	לֹא
And the covenant	H834	that I have made	H854	H3808
H1285		H3772		
תִּשְׁכַּח	וְלֹא	תִירָא וְ	אֱלֹהֵי יָם	אֲחֵרִים:
with you ye shall not forget	H3808	neither shall ye fear	gods	other
H7911		H3372	H430	H312

## Additional Cross-References

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**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.

