

2 Kings 17:39

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But the LORD your God ye shall fear; and he shall deliver you out of the hand of all your enemies.

Analysis

But the LORD your God ye shall fear; and he shall deliver you out of the hand of all your enemies.

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

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

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

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

יְהוָה	אֱלֹהֶיךָ	תִּירָא אוֹ	יְהוָה	אֶת	אֱמֹ	כִּי
H3588	H518	H853	But the LORD	your God	ye shall fear	H1931
	H3068	H430		H3372		
אֶבְיָכֶם:	כָּל	מִיַּד	אֶתְּךָ	יֵצֵא יל		
H3605	H3605	H3027	H853	and he shall deliver		
of all your enemies				H5337		
H341						

Additional Cross-References

Jeremiah 10:7 (Parallel theme): Who would not fear thee, O King of nations? for to thee doth it appertain: forasmuch as among all the wise men of the nations, and in all their kingdoms, there is none like unto thee.

Nehemiah 9:27 (Parallel theme): Therefore thou deliveredst them into the hand of their enemies, who vexed them: and in the time of their trouble, when they cried unto thee, thou heardest them from heaven; and according to thy manifold mercies thou gavest them saviours, who saved them out of the hand of their enemies.

Matthew 10:28 (Parallel theme): And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.

Luke 1:50 (Parallel theme): And his mercy is on them that fear him from generation to generation.

2 Kings 17:36 (References Lord): But the LORD, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt with great power and a stretched out arm, him shall ye fear, and him shall ye worship, and to him shall ye do sacrifice.

1 Samuel 12:24 (References Lord): Only fear the LORD, and serve him in truth with all your heart: for consider how great things he hath done for you.

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