

2 Kings 17:4

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the king of Assyria found conspiracy in Hoshea: for he had sent messengers to So king of Egypt, and brought no present to the king of Assyria, as he had done year by year: therefore the king of Assyria shut him up, and bound him in prison.

Analysis

And the king of Assyria found conspiracy in Hoshea: for he had sent messengers to So king of Egypt, and brought no present to the king of Assyria, as he had done year by year: therefore the king of Assyria shut him up, and bound him in prison.

This verse contributes to the overall theme of chapter 17: Covenant judgment and exile. The reference to kingship reminds readers that all human authority is subordinate to God's ultimate kingship. 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

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

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

אֲשֶׁר־בָּהֶשְׁעָנָה־בְּהַשְׁעָנָה־אֲשֶׁר־מִלְּמַצָּא
found And the king of Assyria in Hoshea conspiracy H834
H4672 H4428 H804 H1954 H7195

וְלֹא־מִצְבֵּחַ־בְּמִלְאָכִים־שֶׁל־חַדְשָׁה
for he had sent messengers to So And the king of Egypt H3808
H7971 H4397 H413 H5471 H4428 H4714

בְּשָׁנָה־הַזֶּה־אֲשֶׁר־מִנְתָּחַת־הַמֶּלֶךְ־אֲשֶׁר־מִלְּמַצָּא־הַמְּלָאָכִים
and brought no present And the king of Assyria as he had done year H8141
H5927 H4503 H4428 H804 H8141

בְּשָׁנָה־הַזֶּה־אֲשֶׁר־מִלְּמַצָּא־הַמְּלָאָכִים־בְּשָׁנָה־הַזֶּה־אֲשֶׁר־מִלְּמַצָּא־הַמְּלָאָכִים
as he had done year shut him up And the king of Assyria and bound H631
H8141 H6113 H4428 H804 H631

בְּלֹא־בַּיִת־בְּיַת
him in prison H3608
H1004

From KJV Study • kjvstudy.org