

# 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

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**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

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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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**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

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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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אֶשׁ רָק שָׁר בְּהוֹשֵׁעַ אֲשׁוּר מֶלֶךְ וַיִּמְצָא

**found** **And the king** **of Assyria** **in Hoshea** **conspiracy** H834

H4672 H4428 H804 H1954 H7195

וְלֹא מִצְרַיִם מֶלֶךְ סּוֹא אֶל מַלְאָכָיו שָׁלַח

**for he had sent** **messengers** H413 **to So** **And the king** **of Egypt** H3808

H7971 H4397 H5471 H4428 H4714

בְּשָׁנָה אֲשׁוּר מֶלֶךְ מִנָּה הָבִיאוּ הָעֵלָה

**and brought** **no present** **And the king** **of Assyria** **as he had done year**

H5927 H4503 H4428 H804 H8141

וַאֲסָרָהּ אֲשׁוּר מֶלֶךְ וַעֲצָרָהּ הוּא בְּשָׁנָה

**as he had done year** **shut him up** **And the king** **of Assyria** **and bound**

H8141 H6113 H4428 H804 H631

כָּלָא: בִּי יֵת

**him in prison** H3608

H1004