

# 2 Kings 18:11

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the king of Assyria did carry away Israel unto Assyria, and put them in Halah and in Habor by the river of Gozan, and in the cities of the Medes:

## Analysis

**And the king of Assyria did carry away Israel unto Assyria, and put them in Halah and in Habor by the river of Gozan, and in the cities of the Medes:**

This verse contributes to the overall theme of chapter 18: Faithful reformation faces external pressure. The reference to kingship reminds readers that all human authority is subordinate to God's ultimate kingship. In Judah's later history, we see both genuine reforms and deep-rooted corruption, revealing that external religious activity cannot substitute for heart transformation.

The narrative demonstrates God's justice in judging covenant unfaithfulness while maintaining His ultimate purposes for redemption.

## Historical Context

**Historical Setting:** 2 Kings 18 takes place during Hezekiah's reign in Judah, late 8th century BCE, around 715-686 BCE. The chapter's theme (Hezekiah's Reforms and Assyrian Threat) reflects the historical reality of genuine religious reform under Hezekiah, including trust in God that resulted in miraculous deliverance from Assyria. 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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**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

**1 John 4:8** — God is love

## Study Questions

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1. How does this verse contribute to understanding the theological message of 2 Kings 18 regarding faithful reformation faces external pressure?
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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לְנַלְכָּדָה	מֶלֶךְ	וְרֹא	אֶת	אֲשֶׁר	יִשְׁכַּן	לְ	מִתְּנַכְּלָה	אֲשֶׁר	וְרֹא	אֶת	אֲשֶׁר	וְרֹא	לְ	מֶלֶךְ	וְרֹא	לְ	
did carry away	And the king	of Assyria		Israel	of Assyria	and put											
H1540	H4428	H804	H853	H3478	H804	H5148											

  

בְּחַלְה	וְרֹא	גּוֹן	גּוֹן	וְרֹא	בְּחַלְה	בְּחַלְה	מְדִינָה	וְרֹא	בְּחַלְה	וְרֹא	בְּחַלְה	וְרֹא	בְּחַלְה	וְרֹא	בְּחַלְה	וְרֹא	
them in Halah	and in Habor	by the river	of Gozan	and in the cities	of the Medes												
H2477	H2249	H5104	H1470	H5892	H4074												

## Additional Cross-References

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**1 Chronicles 5:26** (Kingdom): And the God of Israel stirred up the spirit of Pul king of Assyria, and the spirit of Tilgath-pilneser king of Assyria, and he carried them away, even the Reubenites, and the Gadites, and the half tribe of Manasseh, and brought them unto Halah, and Habor, and Hara, and to the river Gozan, unto this day.

**Isaiah 37:12** (Parallel theme): Have the gods of the nations delivered them which my fathers have destroyed, as Gozan, and Haran, and Rezeph, and the children of Eden which were in Telassar?

**2 Kings 17:6** (Kingdom): In the ninth year of Hoshea the king of Assyria took Samaria, and carried Israel away into Assyria, and placed them in Halah and in Habor by the river of Gozan, and in the cities of the Medes.

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