

2 Kings 18:13

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Now in the fourteenth year of king Hezekiah did Sennacherib king of Assyria come up against all the fenced cities of Judah, and took them.

Analysis

Now in the fourteenth year of king Hezekiah did Sennacherib king of Assyria come up against all the fenced cities of Judah, and took them.

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

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Study Questions

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

עַל הַחַזְקִיָּה מֶלֶךְ שָׁנָה עָשָׂר הַשְׁנִינָה וּבָאַרְבָּעָה
Now in the fourteenth H6240 year king Hezekiah come up
H702 H8141 H4428 H2396 H5927

יְהוּדָה עָלָיו כָּל עַל אֶשְׁוֹר סְנַכְרִיב מֶלֶךְ אֶשְׁוֹר
did Sennacherib king of Assyria H5921 H3605 H804 H5576 H4428 H5892 H3063

וְתַּפְשֵׂמָה בְּבָאָר וְתַּפְשֵׂמָה
against all the fenced and took
H1219 H8610

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