

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

וּבַאַרְבַּע	עֲשֵׂהָ הַ	שָׁנָה הַ	מֶלֶךְ	חִזְקִיָּה הַ	עַל הַ
Now in the fourteenth	H6240	year	king	Hezekiah	come up
H702		H8141	H4428	H2396	H5927
סִנְחֶרִיב	מֶלֶךְ	אַשּׁוּר	עַל	כָּל	עָרֵי
did Sennacherib	king	of Assyria	H5921	H3605	cities
H5576	H4428	H804			H5892
					H3063
הַבָּצָר וְ	וַתִּפְּשֵׁם:				
against all the fenced	and took				
H1219	H8610				

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