

2 Kings 18:19

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Rabshakeh said unto them, Speak ye now to Hezekiah,
Thus saith the great king, the king of Assyria, What
confidence is this wherein thou trustest?

Analysis

And Rabshakeh said unto them, Speak ye now to Hezekiah, Thus saith the great king, the king of Assyria, What confidence is this wherein thou trustest?

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

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 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

אָמַר	אֱלֹהִים	רַב־שָׁקֵה ה	אָמַר ר	נָ א	אֵל	חִזְקִיָּהוּ
Thus saith	H413	And Rabshakeh	Thus saith	H4994	H413	ye now to Hezekiah
H559		H7262	H559			H2396
כֹּה	אָמַר ר	מֶלֶךְ הַגָּדוֹל	מֶלֶךְ	אֲשׁוּר	מֶה	הַבְּטֹחַ וְ
H3541	Thus saith	king	the great	king	of Assyria	What confidence
	H559	H4428	H1419	H4428	H804	H986
הֲזֵה	אֲשׁוּר ר	בְּטֹחֲתִי:				
H2088	H834	is this wherein thou trustest				
		H982				

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 36:4 (Faith): And Rabshakeh said unto them, Say ye now to Hezekiah, Thus saith the great king, the king of Assyria, What confidence is this wherein thou trustest?

2 Kings 19:10 (Faith): Thus shall ye speak to Hezekiah king of Judah, saying, Let not thy God in whom thou trustest deceive thee, saying, Jerusalem shall not be delivered into the hand of the king of Assyria.

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