

2 Kings 18:27

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But Rabshakeh said unto them, Hath my master sent me to thy master, and to thee, to speak these words? hath he not sent me to the men which sit on the wall, that they may eat their own dung, and drink their own piss with you?

Analysis

But Rabshakeh said unto them, Hath my master sent me to thy master, and to thee, to speak these words? hath he not sent me to the men which sit on the wall, that they may eat their own dung, and drink their own piss with you?

This verse contributes to the overall theme of chapter 18: Faithful reformation faces external pressure. 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

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for 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

וְאֵל יְהֹוָה אָדָן וְאָלֵיכֶם וְיְאָמַר
said H413 But Rabshakeh H5921 me to thy master H413
H559 H7262 H113

שָׁלַם בְּנֵי אָדָן וְלֹדֶבֶר אֶת פְּנֵי
sent H7971 me to thy master H113 and to thee to speak H1696
H1697 H853 these words H428
H1697

אֶת לְאָכֵל כִּי כִּי כִּי כִּי כִּי כִּי
that they may eat H853 on the wall H2346
H3808 H5921 H376 which sit H5921
H3427 H5921

עַמְקָם: שִׁינְיָהֶם אֶת חַרְבֵּיכֶם וְלַשְׂתַּת זֹת
H2755 and drink H853 H7890 H5973
H8354

