

# 2 Kings 18:37

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then came Eliakim the son of Hilkiah, which was over the household, and Shebna the scribe, and Joah the son of Asaph the recorder, to Hezekiah with their clothes rent, and told him the words of Rabshakeh.

## Analysis

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**Then came Eliakim the son of Hilkiah, which was over the household, and Shebna the scribe, and Joah the son of Asaph the recorder, to Hezekiah with their clothes rent, and told him the words of Rabshakeh.**

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

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**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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**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

## 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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עַל	אֲשֶׁר	חִלְקִיָּה	בֶּן	אֱלִיאִקִּים	וַיָּבֹא
	H834	H2518		H471	H935
		of Hilkiah	the son	Eliakim	Then came
אֶסָּף	בֶּן	יֹאחָז	הַסֹּפֵר	וְשֶׁבְנָא	הַבַּיִת
	H1121	H3098	H5608	H7644	H1004
of Asaph	the son	and Joah	the scribe	and Shebna	which was over the household
לֹא	וַיֹּאמֶר	בְּגָדֵי יָם	קָרוּעִים	חִזְקִיָּהוּ	אֶל
H0		H899	H7167	H2396	H413
		with their clothes	rent	to Hezekiah	the recorder
	H5046				H2142
רַב־שָׁקָה	דִּבְרֵי				
of Rabshakeh	him the words				
H7262	H1697				

