

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

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

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

Hebrews 11:1 – Definition of faith

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

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

וְיַעֲבֹר אֶלְיָקִים בֶּן חֶלְקִיָּה אֲשֶׁר עַל	אֶלְיָקִים בֶּן חֶלְקִיָּה אֲשֶׁר עַל			
Then came	Eliakim	the son	of Hilkiah	
H935	H471	H1121	H2518	

ל	וְ	דָּבָר	בְּגִדֵּיכֶם	קָרְעָת	וְ	חִזְקִיָּהוּ	אֶל	הַמִּזְבֵּחַ	וְ	יְה
the recorder	H413	to Hezekiah	rent	with their clothes		and told				H0
H2142		H2396	H7167	H899		H5046				

רְבָשָׁקֵה: דְּבָרִים הַיְלָדָה
of Rabshakeh: the words of the youth

