

2 Kings 19:3

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And they said unto him, Thus saith Hezekiah, This day is a day of trouble, and of rebuke, and blasphemy: for the children are come to the birth, and there is not strength to bring forth.

Analysis

And they said unto him, Thus saith Hezekiah, This day is a day of trouble, and of rebuke, and blasphemy: for the children are come to the birth, and there is not strength to bring forth.

This verse contributes to the overall theme of chapter 19: Faith vindicated through divine intervention. 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 19 takes place during Hezekiah's reign in Judah, late 8th century BCE, around 715-686 BCE. The chapter's theme (God Delivers Jerusalem) 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

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. How does this verse contribute to understanding the theological message of 2 Kings 19 regarding faith vindicated through divine intervention?
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

וְאָמְרוּ	אֵלַי יְיָ	כֹּה	וְאָמְרוּ	חֶזְקִיָּהוּ	הַיּוֹם	צָרָה
And they said	H413	H3541	And they said	Hezekiah	This day	of trouble
H559			H559	H2396	H3117	H6869
וְתוֹכָהּ	וּנְאָצָה	הַיּוֹם	הַיּוֹם	כִּי	בָּאוּ	בָּנִים
and of rebuke	and blasphemy	This day	H2088	H3588	are come	for the children
H8433	H5007	H3117			H935	H1121
עַד	מִשְׁבֶּרֶךְ	וְלֹא	אֵין	לִלְדָה:		
H5704	to the birth	and there is not strength	H369	to bring forth		
	H4866	H3581		H3205		

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 66:9 (Parallel theme): Shall I bring to the birth, and not cause to bring forth? saith the LORD: shall I cause to bring forth, and shut the womb? saith thy God.

Hosea 13:13 (Parallel theme): The sorrows of a travailing woman shall come upon him: he is an unwise son; for he should not stay long in the place of the breaking forth of children.

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