

2 Kings 19:4

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

It may be the LORD thy God will hear all the words of Rabshakeh, whom the king of Assyria his master hath sent to reproach the living God; and will reprove the words which the LORD thy God hath heard: wherefore lift up thy prayer for the remnant that are left.

Analysis

It may be the LORD thy God will hear all the words of Rabshakeh, whom the king of Assyria his master hath sent to reproach the living God; and will reprove the words which the LORD thy God hath heard: wherefore lift up thy prayer for the remnant that are left.

This verse contributes to the overall theme of chapter 19: Faith vindicated through divine intervention. The divine name emphasizes Yahweh's covenant relationship with Israel and His sovereign control over historical events. 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 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

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

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

אָלָה	שְׁמָעָה	יְהִי הָאָלֹה יְבָרֵךְ	אָתָה יְבָרֵךְ	כָּל	בְּזֻבְּרִים	
It may be	hath heard	the LORD	God	H853	H3605	all the words

רְבָשָׁק הָיָה	אֲשֶׁר שָׁלַח וְמֶלֶךְ	אֲשֶׁר וְרֹא	אֲדָנָיו
of Rabshakeh	H834 hath sent	whom the king	of Assyria
H7262	H7971	H4428	H804

בָּעֵד	תִּפְלֵל	ה	וְנִשְׁאָת	אֶלְךָ יְהִי	יְהִי הָרָם	עַמְּךָ
hath heard	the LORD	God	wherefore	lift up	thy prayer	H1157
H8085	H3068	H430		H5375	H8665	

השְׁאָר יְתַבֵּל בְּנֵמֶצָּה
for the remnant that are left

Additional Cross-References

2 Samuel 16:12 (References Lord): It may be that the LORD will look on mine affliction, and that the LORD will requite me good for his cursing this day.

Romans 9:27 (Parallel theme): Esaias also crieth concerning Israel, Though the number of the children of Israel be as the sand of the sea, a remnant shall be saved:

Ezekiel 36:37 (References God): Thus saith the Lord GOD; I will yet for this be enquired of by the house of Israel, to do it for them; I will increase them with men like a flock.

Joshua 14:12 (References Lord): Now therefore give me this mountain, whereof the LORD spake in that day; for thou hearest in that day how the Anakims were

there, and that the cities were great and fenced: if so be the LORD will be with me, then I shall be able to drive them out, as the LORD said.

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