

2 Kings 2:14

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And he took the mantle of Elijah that fell from him, and smote the waters, and said, Where is the LORD God of Elijah? and when he also had smitten the waters, they parted hither and thither: and Elisha went over.

Analysis

And he took the mantle of Elijah that fell from him, and smote the waters, and said, Where is the LORD God of Elijah? and when he also had smitten the waters, they parted hither and thither: and Elisha went over.

This verse contributes to the overall theme of chapter 2: Prophetic succession and confirmation of divine calling. The divine name emphasizes Yahweh's covenant relationship with Israel and His sovereign control over historical events. The prophetic ministry served as God's primary means of covenant enforcement, calling both kings and people to faithfulness. During this period, Israel and Judah struggled with persistent idolatry, particularly Baal worship introduced under Ahab and Jezebel.

The narrative demonstrates God's justice in judging covenant unfaithfulness while maintaining His ultimate purposes for redemption.

Historical Context

Historical Setting: 2 Kings 2 takes place during the mid-9th century BCE, around 850 BCE, during the transition from Elijah to Elisha. The chapter's theme (Elijah's Translation and Elisha's Beginning) reflects the historical reality of prophetic

succession and divine affirmation of Elisha's ministry following Elijah's remarkable translation. 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

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Study Questions

1. How does this verse contribute to understanding the theological message of 2 Kings 2 regarding prophetic succession and confirmation of divine calling?
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

וָקַח	אֶת	אֶדְרָת	אֵלֵי הוּא	אֲשֶׁר	נָפַל ה	מֵעֲלָיו
And he took	H853	the mantle	of Elijah	H834	that fell	H5921
H3947		H155	H452		H5307	
וְכֵן ה		אֶת	הַמַּיִם	וַיֹּאמֶר	אֵי ה	
and when he also had smitten	H853	the waters	and said	H346		
H5221		H4325	H559			
יְהוָה ה	אֱלֹהֵי י	אֵלֵי הוּא	אֶף	ה וְאֵן	וְכֵן ה	
Where is the LORD	God	of Elijah	H637	H1931	and when he also had smitten	
H3068	H430	H452			H5221	
אֶת	הַמַּיִם	וַיִּסְּצוּ	הָנָה	וְהָנָה	וַיַּעֲבֹר	
H853	the waters	they parted	H2008	H2008	went over	
	H4325	H2673			H5674	
אֶלְיָשָׁע:						
hither and thither and Elisha						
H477						

Additional Cross-References

John 14:12 (Parallel theme): Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.

Psalms 42:10 (References God): As with a sword in my bones, mine enemies reproach me; while they say daily unto me, Where is thy God?

Psalms 115:2 (References God): Wherefore should the heathen say, Where is now their God?