

2 Kings 2:5

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the sons of the prophets that were at Jericho came to Elisha, and said unto him, Knowest thou that the LORD will take away thy master from thy head to day? And he answered, Yea, I know it; hold ye your peace.

Analysis

And the sons of the prophets that were at Jericho came to Elisha, and said unto him, Knowest thou that the LORD will take away thy master from thy head to day? And he answered, Yea, I know it; hold ye your peace.

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

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 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

אֶל בֵּית יְהוָה וְגַם בָּנִים אֲשֶׁר הָיָה יְהוָה בְּיְרִיחוֹ
אֶל בְּנֵי יְהוָה אֲשֶׁר הָיָה יְהוָה בְּיְרִיחוֹ
that were at Jericho H413
H3405

אֶל יְהוָה וְיְהוָה אָמַר אֶל יְהוָה וְיְהוָה אָמַר
to Elisha And he answered H413 Yea I know H3588 to day H3117
H477 H559 H3045 H3117

רָאשׁ בְּנֵי יְהוָה לְקַרְבָּן אֶת אָדָם יְבָשָׁה
from thy head thou that the LORD will take away H853 thy master H5921
H3068 H3947 H113 H7218

בְּחִשּׁוֹן יְהוָה אָמַר
And he answered H1571 H589 Yea I know H3045 it hold ye your peace H2814
H559

Additional Cross-References

2 Kings 2:3 (Prophecy): And the sons of the prophets that were at Beth-el came forth to Elisha, and said unto him, Knowest thou that the LORD will take away thy master from thy head to day? And he said, Yea, I know it; hold ye your peace.

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