

2 Kings 21:24

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the people of the land slew all them that had conspired against king Amon; and the people of the land made Josiah his son king in his stead.

Analysis

And the people of the land slew all them that had conspired against king Amon; and the people of the land made Josiah his son king in his stead.

This verse contributes to the overall theme of chapter 21: Unprecedented wickedness brings irreversible judgment. 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 21 takes place during the final century of Judah's existence, 7th century BCE, including Manasseh and Josiah's reigns. The chapter's theme (Manasseh and Amon's Evil Reigns) reflects the historical reality of the worst apostasy under Manasseh followed by the most thorough reforms under Josiah, demonstrating that external righteousness cannot reverse God's determined judgment. 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

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Study Questions

1. How does this verse contribute to understanding the theological message of 2 Kings 21 regarding unprecedented wickedness brings irreversible judgment?
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

רָא	עַם	רַצְנָה	אֶת	כָּל	פְּקַשְׁתִּים	עַל
slew	And the people	of the land			all them that had conspired	
H5221	H5971	H776		H853	H3605	H5921

לְרַבְבָּה	עַם	רַצְנָה	אֶת	רַצְנָה	וְאֶשְׁתַּחַת
against king	And the people	of the land			made Josiah
H4428	H526	H4427		H776	H2977

בֶּן	תְּחִתְּיוֹן
his son	
H1121	H8478

Additional Cross-References

2 Kings 14:5 (Kingdom): And it came to pass, as soon as the kingdom was confirmed in his hand, that he slew his servants which had slain the king his father.

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