

2 Kings 22:14

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

So Hilkiah the priest, and Ahikam, and Achbor, and Shaphan, and Asahiah, went unto Huldah the prophetess, the wife of Shallum the son of Tikvah, the son of Harhas, keeper of the wardrobe; (now she dwelt in Jerusalem in the college;) and they communed with her.

Analysis

So Hilkiah the priest, and Ahikam, and Achbor, and Shaphan, and Asahiah, went unto Huldah the prophetess, the wife of Shallum the son of Tikvah, the son of Harhas, keeper of the wardrobe; (now she dwelt in Jerusalem in the college;) and they communed with her.

This verse contributes to the overall theme of chapter 22: Rediscovery of God's word brings renewal. The prophetic ministry served as God's primary means of covenant enforcement, calling both kings and people to faithfulness. 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 22 takes place during the final century of Judah's existence, 7th century BCE, including Manasseh and Josiah's reigns. The chapter's theme (Josiah's Reform Begins) 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

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. How does this verse contribute to understanding the theological message of 2 Kings 22 regarding rediscovery of god's word brings renewal?
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

וְשָׁפֵן וְעַכְבָּר וְרְאַחִיקָּם וְרְאַחְבָּר וְרְשָׁפָן
So Hilkiah the priest and Ahikam and Achbor and Shaphan

בֶּן אֶלְעָשֵׂה הַלְּדָצָה הַנּוֹבֵא הַנָּשָׁת הַשְׁלָמָה
and Asahiah unto Huldah the prophetess the wife of Shallum the son

וְשָׁשָׁת בֶּן תִּקְוָה הַרְמָס בֶּן שָׁמֵר הַבְּגָדָה
of Tikvah the son of Harhas keeper of the wardrobe H1931 now she dwelt

אַלְיָה בָּמָשָׁן הַיּוֹדֵב וְבַיְרּוּשָׁלָם
in Jerusalem in the college and they communed H413

Additional Cross-References

2 Chronicles 34:22 (Prophecy): And Hilkiah, and they that the king had appointed, went to Huldah the prophetess, the wife of Shallum the son of Tikvath, the son of Hasrah, keeper of the wardrobe; (now she dwelt in Jerusalem in the college:) and they spake to her to that effect.

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