

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

וַיֵּלֶךְ	חִלְקִיָּהוּ הוּא	הַ כֹּהֵן	וְאַחִיקָם	וְעֶכְבֹּר וֹר	וְשָׁפָן	
H1980	So Hilkiah	the priest	and Ahikam	and Achbor	and Shaphan	
	H2518	H3548	H296	H5907	H8227	
וְעַשְׂיָהוּ	אֶל	חִלְדָּה הִיא	הַנְּבִיאָה	אֵת שְׁתָּן	שָׁלֹם	בֶּן
and Asahiah	H413	unto Huldah	the prophetess	the wife	of Shallum	the son
H6222		H2468	H5031	H802	H7967	H1121
תִּקְוָה הִיא	בֶּן	חֲרָחִס	שֹׁמֵר	הַבְּגָדִים	וְהִיא יָא	יָשָׁבָת
of Tikvah	the son	of Harhas	keeper	of the wardrobe	H1931	now she dwelt
H8616	H1121	H2745	H8104	H899		H3427
בִּירוּשָׁלַם	בְּמִשְׁנֵה הִיא	וַיְדַבְּרוּ	אֵלֶיהָ:			
in Jerusalem	in the college	and they communed	H413			
H3389	H4932	H1696				

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.