

# 2 Kings 23:29

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

In his days Pharaoh-nechoh king of Egypt went up against the king of Assyria to the river Euphrates: and king Josiah went against him; and he slew him at Megiddo, when he had seen him.

## Analysis

---

**In his days Pharaoh-nechoh king of Egypt went up against the king of Assyria to the river Euphrates: and king Josiah went against him; and he slew him at Megiddo, when he had seen him.**

This verse contributes to the overall theme of chapter 23: Comprehensive reformation cannot avert certain 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 23 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 Thorough Reforms) 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

---

**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

## Study Questions

---

1. How does this verse contribute to understanding the theological message of 2 Kings 23 regarding comprehensive reformation cannot avert certain 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

---

עַל מִצְרַיִם בְּתִים יִי  
In his days went up Pharaohnechoh against the king of Egypt H5921

H3117 H5927 H6549 H4428 H4714

בְּפִתְחֹת לְרַבָּנָה עַל אֶשְׁׁוֹר בְּפִתְחֹת גְּדוֹלָה עַל אֶשְׁׁוֹר  
against the king of Assyria to the river Euphrates against the king

H4428 H804 H5104 H6578 H4428

כִּרְאָתָה וְיִמְחָדָה וְיִמְתַּחַת הַמִּזְבֵּחַ וְיִמְתַּחַת הַמִּזְבֵּחַ  
Josiah against him and he slew him at Megiddo when he had seen

H2977 H7125 H4191 H4023 H7200

אֶתְנָה

H853

## Additional Cross-References

---

**Jeremiah 46:2** (Kingdom): Against Egypt, against the army of Pharaoh-necho king of Egypt, which was by the river Euphrates in Carchemish, which Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon smote in the fourth year of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah king of Judah.

**Zechariah 12:11** (Parallel theme): In that day shall there be a great mourning in Jerusalem, as the mourning of Hadadrimmon in the valley of Megiddon.

**Judges 5:19** (Kingdom): The kings came and fought, then fought the kings of Canaan in Taanach by the waters of Megiddo; they took no gain of money.