

2 Kings 23:33

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Pharaoh-nechoh put him in bands at Riblah in the land of Hamath, that he might not reign in Jerusalem; and put the land to a tribute of an hundred talents of silver, and a talent of gold.

Analysis

And Pharaoh-nechoh put him in bands at Riblah in the land of Hamath, that he might not reign in Jerusalem; and put the land to a tribute of an hundred talents of silver, and a talent of gold.

This verse contributes to the overall theme of chapter 23: Comprehensive reformation cannot avert certain judgment. 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

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

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

וַאֲסָרְהוּ put him in bands H631	פָּרַע ה H0	נָל ה And Pharaohnechoh H6549	בְּרִבְלָה at Riblah H7247	הָאָרֶץ in the land H776
חַמַּת of Hamath H2574	בְּמָלָךְ that he might not reign H4427	בִּירוּשָׁלַם in Jerusalem H3389	וַיָּתֵן and put H5414	עַל נֶשֶׁה to a tribute H6066
הָאָרֶץ in the land H776	מֵאָה of an hundred H3967	וְכֶסֶף and a talent H3603	כֶּסֶף of silver H3701	וְכֶסֶף and a talent H3603
				זָהָב: of gold H2091

Additional Cross-References

1 Kings 8:65 (Parallel theme): And at that time Solomon held a feast, and all Israel with him, a great congregation, from the entering in of Hamath unto the river of Egypt, before the LORD our God, seven days and seven days, even fourteen days.

2 Kings 25:6 (Kingdom): So they took the king, and brought him up to the king of Babylon to Riblah; and they gave judgment upon him.

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