

2 Kings 23:35

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Jehoiakim gave the silver and the gold to Pharaoh; but he taxed the land to give the money according to the commandment of Pharaoh: he exacted the silver and the gold of the people of the land, of every one according to his taxation, to give it unto Pharaoh-nechoh.

Analysis

And Jehoiakim gave the silver and the gold to Pharaoh; but he taxed the land to give the money according to the commandment of Pharaoh: he exacted the silver and the gold of the people of the land, of every one according to his taxation, to give it unto Pharaoh-nechoh.

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

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

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

הַכֶּסֶף	וְהַזָּהָב	לָתַת	יְהוֹיָאִקִּים	פָּרַעַה	אֵל	דָּעַר יוֹ
the money	and the gold	gave	And Jehoiakim	of Pharaoh	H389	but he taxed
H3701	H2091	H5414	H3079	H6547		H6186
אֶת	הָאֲרֶץ	לָתַת	אֶת	הַכֶּסֶף	עַל	כִּי
H853	of the land	gave	H853	the money	H5921	according to the commandment
	H776	H5414		H3701		H6310
פָּרַעַה	אִישׁ	כְּעֶרְכּוֹ	נָגַשׁ	אֶת	הַכֶּסֶף	
of Pharaoh	of every one	according to his taxation	he exacted	H853	the money	
H6547	H376	H6187	H5065		H3701	
וְאֶת	הַזָּהָב	אֶת	עַם	הָאֲרֶץ	לָתַת	לְפָרַעַה
H853	and the gold	H853	of the people	of the land	gave	H0
	H2091		H5971	H776	H5414	
נָחָה:						
it unto Pharaohnechoh						
H6549						

Additional Cross-References

2 Kings 23:33 (Parallel theme): 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.