

2 Kings 23:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And he brake down the houses of the sodomites, that were by the house of the LORD, where the women wove hangings for the grove.

Analysis

And he brake down the houses of the sodomites, that were by the house of the LORD, where the women wove hangings for the grove.

This verse contributes to the overall theme of chapter 23: Comprehensive reformation cannot avert certain judgment. The divine name emphasizes Yahweh's covenant relationship with Israel and His sovereign control over historical events. 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

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

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

וַיִּתֵּן	אֶת	בֵּת יָם	הַקִּדָּשׁ יָם	אֲשֶׁר	בֵּת יָם
And he brake down	H853	hangings	of the sodomites	H834	hangings
H5422		H1004	H6945		H1004
יְהוָה ה	אֲשֶׁר	הַנָּשׁ יָם	אָרְגוּ וְ	שָׁם	בֵּת יָם
of the LORD	H834	where the women	wove	H8033	hangings
H3068		H802	H707		H1004
					לְאִשְׁכָּה:
					for the grove
					H842

Additional Cross-References

Ezekiel 16:16 (Parallel theme): And of thy garments thou didst take, and deckedst thy high places with divers colours, and playedst the harlot thereupon: the like things shall not come, neither shall it be so.

1 Kings 15:12 (Parallel theme): And he took away the sodomites out of the land, and removed all the idols that his fathers had made.

1 Kings 14:24 (References Lord): And there were also sodomites in the land: and they did according to all the abominations of the nations which the LORD cast out before the children of Israel.

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