

2 Kings 24:16

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And all the men of might, even seven thousand, and craftsmen and smiths a thousand, all that were strong and apt for war, even them the king of Babylon brought captive to Babylon.

Analysis

And all the men of might, even seven thousand, and craftsmen and smiths a thousand, all that were strong and apt for war, even them the king of Babylon brought captive to Babylon.

This verse contributes to the overall theme of chapter 24: Judgment unfolds progressively. The reference to kingship reminds readers that all human authority is subordinate to God's ultimate kingship. As Judah approaches exile, these events fulfill prophetic warnings and demonstrate that God's patience with covenant violation is not infinite.

The narrative demonstrates God's justice in judging covenant unfaithfulness while maintaining His ultimate purposes for redemption.

Historical Context

Historical Setting: 2 Kings 24 takes place during the final collapse of Judah and Babylonian exile, early 6th century BCE, 605-586 BCE. The chapter's theme (Beginning of Babylonian Captivity) reflects the historical reality of the final collapse of Judah, destruction of Jerusalem and the temple, and exile to Babylon as covenant curses are fully realized. 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 24 regarding judgment unfolds progressively?
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

וְאֵת H853	כָּל H3605	אָנָשִׁי H582	הַחֵיל H2428	שִׁבְעַת H7651	אֶלֶף H505	וְהַחֹדָשׁ H2796
		And all the men	of might	even seven	a thousand	and craftsmen
וְהַמִּסְגֵּר H4525	אֶלֶף H505	הַכֹּל H3605	גְּבוּרִים H1368	עָשִׂי H6213	מִלְחָמָה H4421	וַיְבִיֵּאֵם H935
and smiths	a thousand		all that were strong	and apt	for war	brought
		מֶלֶךְ H4428	בְּבָבֶלָה: H894	גּוֹלָה H1473	בְּבָבֶלָה: H894	
even them the king		of Babylon	captive	of Babylon		

Additional Cross-References

Jeremiah 52:28 (Parallel theme): This is the people whom Nebuchadrezzar carried away captive: in the seventh year three thousand Jews and three and twenty:

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