

# 2 Kings 25:18

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the captain of the guard took Seraiah the chief priest, and Zephaniah the second priest, and the three keepers of the door:

## Analysis

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**And the captain of the guard took Seraiah the chief priest, and Zephaniah the second priest, and the three keepers of the door:**

This verse contributes to the overall theme of chapter 25: Covenant curses fulfilled completely. 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

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**Historical Setting:** 2 Kings 25 takes place during the final collapse of Judah and Babylonian exile, early 6th century BCE, 605-586 BCE. The chapter's theme (Fall of Jerusalem and Temple Destruction) 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

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**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

**Psalm 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

## Study Questions

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1. How does this verse contribute to understanding the theological message of 2 Kings 25 regarding covenant curses fulfilled completely?
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

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וְיָקָרְתָּ	רַבָּ	טָבַחַ יִמְ	אֶת	שְׁרִיהַ	פָּהַ	אֶת	קָרָאֵשׁ	פָּהַ	שְׁמָרֵי	הַפְּנִים
took	And the captain	of the guard	H853	Seraiah	priest	the chief				H853
H3947	H7227	H2876		H8304	H3548	H7218				
וְאַפְנֵי הַזְּפָנִים	אֶת	מִשְׁנַה	הַפָּהַ	שְׁלַשְׁת	וְאֶת	מִשְׁנַה	הַפָּהַ	שְׁמָרֵי	וְאֶת	שְׁמָרֵי
and Zephaniah	priest	the second	H853	and the three	keepers	of the door				
H6846	H3548	H4932		H7969	H8104	H5592				

## Additional Cross-References

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**Jeremiah 29:25** (Parallel theme): Thus speaketh the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, saying, Because thou hast sent letters in thy name unto all the people that are at Jerusalem, and to Zephaniah the son of Maaseiah the priest, and to all the priests, saying,

**Jeremiah 21:1** (Parallel theme): The word which came unto Jeremiah from the LORD, when king Zedekiah sent unto him Pashur the son of Melchiah, and Zephaniah the son of Maaseiah the priest, saying,

**1 Chronicles 6:14** (Parallel theme): And Azariah begat Seraiah, and Seraiah begat Jehozadak,

**Ezra 7:1** (Parallel theme): Now after these things, in the reign of Artaxerxes king of Persia, Ezra the son of Seraiah, the son of Azariah, the son of Hilkiah,

**Jeremiah 52:24** (Parallel theme): And the captain of the guard took Seraiah the chief priest, and Zephaniah the second priest, and the three keepers of the door:

**Jeremiah 29:29** (Parallel theme): And Zephaniah the priest read this letter in the ears of Jeremiah the prophet.