

# 2 Kings 3:17

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For thus saith the LORD, Ye shall not see wind, neither shall ye see rain; yet that valley shall be filled with water, that ye may drink, both ye, and your cattle, and your beasts.

## Analysis

**For thus saith the LORD, Ye shall not see wind, neither shall ye see rain; yet that valley shall be filled with water, that ye may drink, both ye, and your cattle, and your beasts.**

This verse contributes to the overall theme of chapter 3: God's faithfulness despite human unfaithfulness. The divine name emphasizes Yahweh's covenant relationship with Israel and His sovereign control over historical events. The prophetic ministry served as God's primary means of covenant enforcement, calling both kings and people to faithfulness. During this period, Israel and Judah struggled with persistent idolatry, particularly Baal worship introduced under Ahab and Jezebel.

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

## Historical Context

**Historical Setting:** 2 Kings 3 takes place during the Elisha prophetic ministry, approximately 850-800 BCE. The chapter's theme (Moabite Rebellion and God's Deliverance) reflects the historical reality of God's compassionate provision through prophetic miracles while both kingdoms struggled with persistent idolatry. 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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**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

**1 John 4:8** — God is love

## Study Questions

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1. How does this verse contribute to understanding the theological message of 2 Kings 3 regarding god's faithfulness despite human unfaithfulness?
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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כִּי	אָמַר	הָיָה	לَا	תְּרִא	רַק	וְלֹא
H3588	H3541	For thus saith	the LORD	H3808	Ye shall not see	wind
		H559	H3068		H7200	H7307
תְּרִא	וְשָׁם	כִּי	בְּהֵן	וְאַתָּה	וְאַתָּה	וְמִן
Ye shall not see	rain	yet that valley	H1931	shall be filled	with water	
H7200	H1653	H5158		H4390	H4325	
וְשִׁתְיִתְּךָ	אַתָּה	וְמִלְחָנִיכָּה		וְבָהָמֹתֶךָ		
that ye may drink	H859	both ye and your cattle	H4735	and your beasts		
H8354				H929		

## Additional Cross-References

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**Psalms 107:35** (Parallel theme): He turneth the wilderness into a standing water, and dry ground into watersprings.

**Isaiah 48:21** (Parallel theme): And they thirsted not when he led them through the deserts: he caused the waters to flow out of the rock for them: he clave the rock also, and the waters gushed out.

**Psalms 84:6** (Parallel theme): Who passing through the valley of Baca make it a well; the rain also filleth the pools.

**Exodus 17:6** (Parallel theme): Behold, I will stand before thee there upon the rock in Horeb; and thou shalt smite the rock, and there shall come water out of it, that the people may drink. And Moses did so in the sight of the elders of Israel.

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