

2 Kings 3:22

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And they rose up early in the morning, and the sun shone upon the water, and the Moabites saw the water on the other side as red as blood:

Analysis

And they rose up early in the morning, and the sun shone upon the water, and the Moabites saw the water on the other side as red as blood:

This verse contributes to the overall theme of chapter 3: God's faithfulness despite human unfaithfulness. 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

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Romans 10:9 – Confession and belief for salvation

Study Questions

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

בְּבַבְּ קָרְבָּן	וְשָׁאָקָם	זְרַחַת הַ	עַל	הַמָּעָם
And they rose up early	in the morning	and the sun	shone	H5921 the water
H7925	H1242	H8121	H2224	H4325
וְיָרָא אֶת	מִזְרָחָ בְּ	מִזְרָחָ גָּדָה	אֶת	הַמָּעָם
saw	and the Moabites	on the other side	H853	the water
H7200	H4124	H5048	H4325	H122 as red
				H1818 as blood

From KJV Study • kjvstudy.org