

2 Kings 3:24

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And when they came to the camp of Israel, the Israelites rose up and smote the Moabites, so that they fled before them: but they went forward smiting the Moabites, even in their country.

Analysis

And when they came to the camp of Israel, the Israelites rose up and smote the Moabites, so that they fled before them: but they went forward smiting the Moabites, even in their country.

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

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

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

וַיָּבֹאוּ	אֶל	מַחֲנֵה הַ	יִשְׂרָאֵל	וַקָּם מִן	יִשְׂרָאֵל	וַיַּכּוּ אֹת
And when they came	H413	to the camp	of Israel	rose up	of Israel	and smote
H935		H4264	H3478	H6965	H3478	H5221
אֶת	מוֹאָבִים:	וַיָּסֹפּוּ	מִפְּנֵי הַ	וַיָּבֹאוּ		וַיַּכּוּ אֹת
H853	the Moabites	so that they fled	before	And when they came		and smote
	H4124	H5127	H6440	H935		H5221
וַיַּכּוּ אֹת	אֶת	מוֹאָבִים:				
and smote	H853	the Moabites				
H5221		H4124				

