

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

וְהִכְתִּיב וְיַעֲשֵׂה אֵלֶיךָ כַּאֲשֶׁר
And when they came H413 to the camp H4264 of Israel H3478 rose up H6965 of Israel H3478 and smote H5221

וְהִכְתִּיב וְיַעֲשֵׂה אֵלֶיךָ כַּאֲשֶׁר
the Moabites H4124 so that they fled H5127 before H6440 And when they came H935 and smote H5221

וְהִכְתִּיב וְיַעֲשֵׂה אֵלֶיךָ כַּאֲשֶׁר
and smote H5221 the Moabites H4124

