

2 Kings 4:27

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And when she came to the man of God to the hill, she caught him by the feet: but Gehazi came near to thrust her away. And the man of God said, Let her alone; for her soul is vexed within her: and the LORD hath hid it from me, and hath not told me.

Analysis

And when she came to the man of God to the hill, she caught him by the feet: but Gehazi came near to thrust her away. And the man of God said, Let her alone; for her soul is vexed within her: and the LORD hath hid it from me, and hath not told me.

This verse contributes to the overall theme of chapter 4: God's compassionate power through His prophet. 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 4 takes place during the Elisha prophetic ministry, approximately 850-800 BCE. The chapter's theme (Elisha's Miracles of Provision and Life) 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

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. How does this verse contribute to understanding the theological message of 2 Kings 4 regarding God's compassionate power through his prophet?
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

וַתָּבֹא	אֵל	אֵל	פָּאֵלָה	יְמִינָה	רִבְבָּה	לִפְנֵי	לִפְנֵי
And when she came	H413	And the man	H430	of God	H413	to the hill	she caught
H935		H376		H430		H2022	H2388
בְּכֶנֶל יְהוָה	וְשָׁאַלְתָּהּ	לִפְצֹדֵךְ	אֵל	וַיֹּאמֶר	אֵל	וַיֹּאמֶר	אֵל
him by the feet	came near	but Gehazi	to thrust her away	said	And the man		
H7272	H5066	H1522	H1920	H559	H376		
בְּאֵלָה יְמִינָה	לְהַלֵּךְ	בְּנֶפֶשׁ הָרָבָה	מְבָה	לְהַלֵּךְ			
of God	Let her alone	H0	H3588	for her soul	is vexed	H0	
H430	H7503			H5315	H4843		
וְיִהִי	מִתְּחִילָה	בְּעַלְמָה	וְיִהִי	הַגִּיד			
within her and the LORD	H3068	hath hid	H4480	H3808	it from me and hath not told	H5046	
		H5956					

Additional Cross-References

Genesis 18:17 (References Lord): And the LORD said, Shall I hide from Abraham that thing which I do;

2 Samuel 7:3 (References Lord): And Nathan said to the king, Go, do all that is in thine heart; for the LORD is with thee.