

2 Kings 4:28

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then she said, Did I desire a son of my lord? did I not say, Do not deceive me?

Analysis

Then she said, Did I desire a son of my lord? did I not say, Do not deceive me?

This verse contributes to the overall theme of chapter 4: God's compassionate power through His prophet. 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

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

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

אִם רָתָי בְּלֹא אָדָן מֵאָתָּה בְּנֵי בְּשָׂא לְתִי אִם רָתָי
Then she said Did I desire a son H853 of my lord H3808 Then she said H559
H559 H7592 H1121 H113 H3808 H559

אַתִּי תְּשַׁלֵּה לֵא
H3808 Do not deceive H853 H7952

Additional Cross-References

Genesis 30:1 (Parallel theme): And when Rachel saw that she bare Jacob no children, Rachel envied her sister; and said unto Jacob, Give me children, or else I die.

