

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

אָמַר רָתִי	הֲשָׂא לִתִּי	בֶן	יָמָא ת	אֲדֹנִי	הֵל א	אָמַר רָתִי
Then she said	Did I desire	a son	H853	of my lord	H3808	Then she said
H559	H7592	H1121		H113		H559

ל א	תִּשְׁלֶה	אֹתִי:
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.

