

2 Kings 4:37

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then she went in, and fell at his feet, and bowed herself to the ground, and took up her son, and went out.

Analysis

Then she went in, and fell at his feet, and bowed herself to the ground, and took up her son, and went out.

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

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

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

אֶת־צְדָקָה	וַתִּשְׁתַּחַת	חָזֶה	בְּגַלְגָּל	עַל	וַתַּפְּלַבְּלָה	וַתַּפְּלַבְּלָה
Then she went in	and fell	H5921	at his feet	and bowed	herself to the ground	
H935	H5307		H7272	H7812		H776

וְיָמַשׁ	אֶת־	בָּתְּךָ	וְיָמַשָּׁא
and took up	H853	her son	and went out

| H5375 | | H1121 | H3318 | | | |

Additional Cross-References

Hebrews 11:35 (Parallel theme): Women received their dead raised to life again: and others were tortured, not accepting deliverance; that they might obtain a better resurrection: