

2 Kings 4:5

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

So she went from him, and shut the door upon her and upon her sons, who brought the vessels to her; and she poured out.

Analysis

So she went from him, and shut the door upon her and upon her sons, who brought the vessels to her; and she poured 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

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

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

וַיַּעֲשֵׂה רַבָּתָה וַיַּתְסַגֵּר מִתְלַבֵּד
H1980 H853 from him and shut H5462 the door H1817 upon her and upon H1157

וְבַעַד בְּנֵי יִצְחָק
upon her and upon her sons who brought H413 H1931

וְבַעַד בְּנֵי יִצְחָק
H1157 H1121 H1992 H5066

מִצְקָת
the vessels to her and she poured out
H3332

Additional Cross-References

2 Kings 5:11 (Parallel theme): But Naaman was wroth, and went away, and said, Behold, I thought, He will surely come out to me, and stand, and call on the name of the LORD his God, and strike his hand over the place, and recover the leper.

