

2 Kings 5:23

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Naaman said, Be content, take two talents. And he urged him, and bound two talents of silver in two bags, with two changes of garments, and laid them upon two of his servants; and they bare them before him.

Analysis

And Naaman said, Be content, take two talents. And he urged him, and bound two talents of silver in two bags, with two changes of garments, and laid them upon two of his servants; and they bare them before him.

This verse contributes to the overall theme of chapter 5: God's grace extends to Gentiles; judgment on greed. 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 5 takes place during the Elisha prophetic ministry, approximately 850-800 BCE. The chapter's theme (Naaman's Healing and Gehazi's Greed) 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

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. How does this verse contribute to understanding the theological message of 2 Kings 5 regarding god's grace extends to gentiles; judgment on greed?
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

וַיֹּאמֶר	וַיִּפְּרֹץ	כִּכְבָּר יִם	קַח	הוֹאֵל ל	נָעֲמָן	וַיֹּאמֶר
said	And he urged	talents	take	Be content	And Naaman	said
H559	H6555	H3603	H3947	H2974	H5283	H559
בְּגָד יִם	חֲלֹפֹת	שְׁנֵי י	חֲרֹט יִם	שְׁנֵי י	כִּכְבָּר יִם	וַיִּצַּר
of garments	changes	in two	bags	in two	talents	H6887
H899	H2487	H8147	H2754	H8147	H3603	
לִפְנֵיוֹ:	וַיִּשָּׂא ו	נָעֲמָן יו	שְׁנֵי י	אֶל	וַיִּתֵּן	
them before	and they bare	of his servants	in two	and laid	and laid	
H6440	H5375	H5288	H8147	H413	H5414	