

2 Kings 6:16

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And he answered, Fear not: for they that be with us are more than they that be with them.

Analysis

And he answered, Fear not: for they that be with us are more than they that be with them.

This verse contributes to the overall theme of chapter 6: God's protection and provision for His servants. 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 6 takes place during the Elisha prophetic ministry, approximately 850-800 BCE. The chapter's theme (Miracles and Siege) 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

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Study Questions

1. How does this verse contribute to understanding the theological message of 2 Kings 6 regarding god's protection and provision for his servants?
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

וְאֵת	אָמַר	אֵל	תִּירְאָה	כִּי	רְבִים	רָאשׁ
And he answered	H408	Fear	H3588	not for they that be with us are more	H7227	H834
H559		H3372				
וְאֵת	רָאשׁ	רָאשׁ	אָמַר	אָמַר	רְבִים	רָאשׁ
H854	H834	H854				

Additional Cross-References

Romans 8:31 (Parallel theme): What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?

1 John 4:4 (Parallel theme): Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.

Psalms 55:18 (Parallel theme): He hath delivered my soul in peace from the battle that was against me: for there were many with me.

Isaiah 8:10 (Parallel theme): Take counsel together, and it shall come to nought; speak the word, and it shall not stand: for God is with us.

Exodus 14:13 (Parallel theme): And Moses said unto the people, Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, which he will shew to you to day: for the Egyptians whom ye have seen to day, ye shall see them again no more for ever.

Psalms 27:3 (Parallel theme): Though an host should encamp against me, my heart shall not fear: though war should rise against me, in this will I be confident.

Matthew 26:53 (Parallel theme): Thinkest thou that I cannot now pray to my Father, and he shall presently give me more than twelve legions of angels?

Psalms 46:11 (Parallel theme): The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. Selah.

Philippians 1:28 (Parallel theme): And in nothing terrified by your adversaries: which is to them an evident token of perdition, but to you of salvation, and that of God.

2 Chronicles 16:9 (Parallel theme): For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to shew himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him. Herein thou hast done foolishly: therefore from henceforth thou shalt have wars.