

# 2 Kings 6:22

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And he answered, Thou shalt not smite them: wouldest thou smite those whom thou hast taken captive with thy sword and with thy bow? set bread and water before them, that they may eat and drink, and go to their master.

## Analysis

---

**And he answered, Thou shalt not smite them: wouldest thou smite those whom thou hast taken captive with thy sword and with thy bow? set bread and water before them, that they may eat and drink, and go to their master.**

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**

---

**James 2:17** — Faith and works

**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

**Genesis 1:1** — Creation of heavens and earth

**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

## **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

---

וַיֹּאמֶר	לֹא	מִכָּה	הָאֵשׁ	ר
And he answered	H3808	Thou shalt not smite	H834	
H559		H5221		
שְׁבֵי יָתְ	בְּחֶרֶבְךָ	וּבַקֶּשֶׁתְךָ	אֶתְּ	ה
those whom thou hast taken captive	with thy sword	and with thy bow	H859	
H7617	H2719	H7198		
מִכָּה	שִׁים	לֶחֶם	וַיֵּם	לִפְנֵיהֶם
Thou shalt not smite	set	bread	and water	before
H5221	H7760	H3899	H4325	H6440
וַיֹּאכְלוּ	וַיִּשְׁתּוּ	וַיִּלְכְּ	אֶל	אֲדֹנֵיהֶם:
them that they may eat	and drink	H1980	H413	to their master
H398	H8354			H113

## Additional Cross-References

---

**Genesis 48:22** (Word): Moreover I have given to thee one portion above thy brethren, which I took out of the hand of the Amorite with my sword and with my bow.

**Hosea 2:18** (Word): And in that day will I make a covenant for them with the beasts of the field, and with the fowls of heaven, and with the creeping things of the ground: and I will break the bow and the sword and the battle out of the earth, and will make them to lie down safely.