

2 Kings 6:23

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And he prepared great provision for them: and when they had eaten and drunk, he sent them away, and they went to their master. So the bands of Syria came no more into the land of Israel.

Analysis

And he prepared great provision for them: and when they had eaten and drunk, he sent them away, and they went to their master. So the bands of Syria came no more into the land of Israel.

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

1 John 4:8 — God is love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

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

וַיַּכֵּר ה	לָהֶם	כֵּךְ ה	גְּדוֹלָה	וַיֹּאכְלוּ	
And he prepared	H1992	provision	great	for them and when they had eaten	
H3739		H3740	H1419	H398	
וַיִּשְׂתּוּ	וַיִּשְׁלַחֵם	וַיֵּלְכוּ	אֶל	אֲדֹנֵיהֶם	וְלֹא
and drunk	he sent them away	H1980	H413	to their master	H3808
H8354	H7971			H113	H3254
וַיָּבֹאוּ	גְּדוּדֵי י	אֶרֶץ	לְבָנוֹן	בְּאֶרֶץ	יִשְׂרָאֵל:
H5750	So the bands	of Syria	came	into the land	of Israel
	H1416	H758	H935	H776	H3478

Additional Cross-References

2 Kings 5:2 (References Israel): And the Syrians had gone out by companies, and had brought away captive out of the land of Israel a little maid; and she waited on Naaman's wife.

2 Kings 24:2 (Parallel theme): And the LORD sent against him bands of the Chaldees, and bands of the Syrians, and bands of the Moabites, and bands of the children of Ammon, and sent them against Judah to destroy it, according to the word of the LORD, which he spake by his servants the prophets.

Luke 6:35 (Parallel theme): But love ye your enemies, and do good, and lend, hoping for nothing again; and your reward shall be great, and ye shall be the children of the Highest: for he is kind unto the unthankful and to the evil.

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