

2 Kings 6:24

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And it came to pass after this, that Ben-hadad king of Syria gathered all his host, and went up, and besieged Samaria.

Analysis

And it came to pass after this, that Ben-hadad king of Syria gathered all his host, and went up, and besieged Samaria.

This verse contributes to the overall theme of chapter 6: God's protection and provision for His servants. The reference to kingship reminds readers that all human authority is subordinate to God's ultimate kingship. 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

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

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

וַיְהִי	אֲחֵרֵי	כִּי	וַיִּקְבֹּץ	בֶּן	הַדָּד	מֶלֶךְ	
H1961	And it came to pass after this	H3651	gathered	H0	that Benhadad	king	
	H310		H6908		H1130	H4428	
אֶת	כָּל	מַחֲנֵה הוּא	וַיַּעַל	וַיִּצֹר	עַל	שָׁמְרוֹן:	
of Syria	H853	H3605	all his host	and went up	and besieged	H5921	Samaria
H758		H4264	H5927	H6696		H8111	

Additional Cross-References

1 Kings 20:1 (Kingdom): And Ben-hadad the king of Syria gathered all his host together: and there were thirty and two kings with him, and horses, and chariots: and he went up and besieged Samaria, and warred against it.

Ecclesiastes 9:14 (Kingdom): There was a little city, and few men within it; and there came a great king against it, and besieged it, and built great bulwarks against it:

Deuteronomy 28:52 (Parallel theme): And he shall besiege thee in all thy gates, until thy high and fenced walls come down, wherein thou trustedst, throughout all thy land: and he shall besiege thee in all thy gates throughout all thy land, which the LORD thy God hath given thee.

1 Kings 22:31 (Kingdom): But the king of Syria commanded his thirty and two captains that had rule over his chariots, saying, Fight neither with small nor great, save only with the king of Israel.

2 Kings 17:5 (Kingdom): Then the king of Assyria came up throughout all the land, and went up to Samaria, and besieged it three years.