

2 Kings 6:30

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And it came to pass, when the king heard the words of the woman, that he rent his clothes; and he passed by upon the wall, and the people looked, and, behold, he had sackcloth within upon his flesh.

Analysis

And it came to pass, when the king heard the words of the woman, that he rent his clothes; and he passed by upon the wall, and the people looked, and, behold, he had sackcloth within upon his flesh.

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 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

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 H1961	כְּשֶׁמָּע H8085	הִמָּ לָךְ H4428	אֶת H853	דְּבָרֵי י H1697	הָאִשָּׁה H802
heard	And it came to pass when the king		the words	of the woman	
וַיִּקֹּבַע H7167	אֶת H853	בְּגָדָיו H899	וְהוּא H1931	עָבַר H5674	עַל H5921
that he rent	his clothes	and he passed by	upon the wall		
וַיֵּרָא H7200	הָעָם H5971	וְהִנֵּה H2009	הָשָׁ ק H8242	עַל H5921	בְּשָׁרָו H1320
looked	and the people	and behold he had sackcloth	upon his flesh		

מִבֵּית:
H1004

within

Additional Cross-References

1 Kings 21:27 (Word): And it came to pass, when Ahab heard those words, that he rent his clothes, and put sackcloth upon his flesh, and fasted, and lay in sackcloth, and went softly.

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