

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

כִּי-יָמָן עָשָׂה	בְּמִלְחָמָה	אֶת	דְּבָרָיו	בְּאִשָּׁה
H1961	heard	H853	the words	of the woman
H8085	And it came to pass when the king	H4428	H1697	H802

עָזָב עָזָב עָזָב עָזָב				
that he rent	his clothes	and he passed by	upon the wall	
H7167	H853	H1931	H5921	H2346

וְיָרַא כָּל הַמִּבְּנִים	בְּשֵׁם	עַל	בְּשֵׁר וְ
looked and the people	and behold he had sackcloth	H5921	upon his flesh
H7200	H2009	H8242	H1320

מִבְּנִים:
within
H1004

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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