

2 Kings 7:1

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then Elisha said, Hear ye the word of the LORD; Thus saith the LORD, To morrow about this time shall a measure of fine flour be sold for a shekel, and two measures of barley for a shekel, in the gate of Samaria.

Analysis

Then Elisha said, Hear ye the word of the LORD; Thus saith the LORD, To morrow about this time shall a measure of fine flour be sold for a shekel, and two measures of barley for a shekel, in the gate of Samaria.

This verse contributes to the overall theme of chapter 7: God's supernatural deliverance and human unbelief judged. The divine name emphasizes Yahweh's covenant relationship with Israel and His sovereign control over historical events. 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 7 takes place during the Elisha prophetic ministry, approximately 850-800 BCE. The chapter's theme (Deliverance from Famine) 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

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. How does this verse contribute to understanding the theological message of 2 Kings 7 regarding god's supernatural deliverance and human unbelief judged?
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

| | | | | | | |
|----------------------|------------------|--------------|----------------------|---------------|-------------|------------|
| אָמַר | אֵלִישָׁע | שָׁמַע וְ | דִּבֶּר | יְהוָה | כֹּה הִנֵּה | אָמַר |
| Thus saith | Then Elisha | Hear | ye the word | of the LORD | H3541 | Thus saith |
| H559 | H477 | H8085 | H1697 | H3068 | | H559 |
| יְהוָה | כֵּעַתָּה | מָחָר | וְשְׁנַיִם | סֵלֶת | | |
| of the LORD | about this time | To morrow | and two measures | of fine flour | | |
| H3068 | H6256 | H4279 | H5429 | H5560 | | |
| בֶּשֶׁל קֶלַח | וְשְׁנַיִם | שְׁעָרֵי יָם | בֶּשֶׁל קֶלַח | בֶּשֶׁל עֵר | | |
| be sold for a shekel | and two measures | of barley | be sold for a shekel | in the gate | | |
| H8255 | H5429 | H8184 | H8255 | H8179 | | |
| שָׁמְרוּן: | | | | | | |
| of Samaria | | | | | | |
| H8111 | | | | | | |

Additional Cross-References

Joshua 3:5 (References Lord): And Joshua said unto the people, Sanctify yourselves: for to morrow the LORD will do wonders among you.

Exodus 16:12 (References Lord): I have heard the murmurings of the children of Israel: speak unto them, saying, At even ye shall eat flesh, and in the morning ye shall be filled with bread; and ye shall know that I am the LORD your God.

Ezekiel 37:4 (Word): Again he said unto me, Prophecy upon these bones, and say unto them, O ye dry bones, hear the word of the LORD.

Exodus 14:13 (References Lord): And Moses said unto the people, Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, which he will shew to you to day: for the Egyptians whom ye have seen to day, ye shall see them again no more for ever.

1 Samuel 11:9 (Parallel theme): And they said unto the messengers that came, Thus shall ye say unto the men of Jabesh-gilead, To morrow, by that time the sun be hot, ye shall have help. And the messengers came and shewed it to the men of Jabesh; and they were glad.

Psalms 46:5 (Parallel theme): God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved: God shall help her, and that right early.

Exodus 8:23 (Parallel theme): And I will put a division between my people and thy people: to morrow shall this sign be.

2 Kings 20:16 (Word): And Isaiah said unto Hezekiah, Hear the word of the LORD.

Revelation 6:6 (Parallel theme): And I heard a voice in the midst of the four beasts say, A measure of wheat for a penny, and three measures of barley for a penny; and see thou hurt not the oil and the wine.

2 Kings 4:42 (Parallel theme): And there came a man from Baal-shalisha, and brought the man of God bread of the firstfruits, twenty loaves of barley, and full ears of corn in the husk thereof. And he said, Give unto the people, that they may eat.