

2 Kings 7:19

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And that lord answered the man of God, and said, Now, behold, if the LORD should make windows in heaven, might such a thing be? And he said, Behold, thou shalt see it with thine eyes, but shalt not eat thereof.

Analysis

And that lord answered the man of God, and said, Now, behold, if the LORD should make windows in heaven, might such a thing be? And he said, Behold, thou shalt see it with thine eyes, but shalt not eat thereof.

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

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

וַיַּעַן	הַשָּׁל יֵשׁ	אֶת	אִישׁ	הָאֱלֹהִים	וַיֹּאמֶר	יְהוָה ה
answered	And that lord	H853	the man	of God	and said	H2009
H6030	H7991		H376	H430	H559	
יְהוָה ה	עָשׂ ה	אֲרָבוֹת	בְּשָׁמַיִם	הִיְהִי ה		
Now behold if the LORD	should make	windows	in heaven			H1961
H3068	H6213	H699	H8064			
כִּדָּבָר	הִזָּה ה	וַיֹּאמֶר	הַנָּבִי	רָאָה		
might such a thing	H2088	and said	H2009	Behold thou shalt see		
H1697		H559		H7200		
בְּעֵינַי יִרְ	וּמַשֶּׁה	ל א	תֹאכֹל:			
it with thine eyes	H8033	H3808	but shalt not eat			
H5869			H398			

Additional Cross-References

2 Kings 7:2 (References God): Then a lord on whose hand the king leaned answered the man of God, and said, Behold, if the LORD would make windows in heaven, might this thing be? And he said, Behold, thou shalt see it with thine eyes, but shalt not eat thereof.