

2 Kings 9:17

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And there stood a watchman on the tower in Jezreel, and he spied the company of Jehu as he came, and said, I see a company. And Joram said, Take an horseman, and send to meet them, and let him say, Is it peace?

Analysis

And there stood a watchman on the tower in Jezreel, and he spied the company of Jehu as he came, and said, I see a company. And Joram said, Take an horseman, and send to meet them, and let him say, Is it peace?

This verse contributes to the overall theme of chapter 9: Divine judgment executed on Ahab's house. 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 9 takes place during Jehu's dynasty and the violent purge of Baal worship, around 841 BCE. The chapter's theme (Jehu's Violent Revolution) reflects the historical reality of violent political revolution motivated by zeal for Yahweh but lacking genuine heart transformation. 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

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. How does this verse contribute to understanding the theological message of 2 Kings 9 regarding divine judgment executed on ahab's house?
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

אֶת	רָאָה	בִּיזְרֶעֶל	עַל	הַמִּגְדָּל	עַמֵּד	וְהַצֹּפֶה
	I see	in Jezreel	on the tower	And there stood	a watchman	
	H7200	H3157	H4026	H5975	H6822	
וַיֹּאמֶר	רָאָה	אֶת	יְהוָה	בָּבֹא	וְהוּא	שָׁפַע
and said	I see	a company	and said	as he came	of Jehu	a company
H559	H7200	H589	H559	H935	H3058	H8229
הַשְּׁלוֹם	וַיֹּאמֶר	לְקָרְאֶתָּה	וְשָׁלַח	רֶכֶב	קָח	וְהוֹכֵם
Is it peace	and said	to meet	and send	an horseman	Take	And Joram
H7965	H559	H7125	H7971	H7395	H3947	H3088

Additional Cross-References

1 Samuel 16:4 (Peace): And Samuel did that which the LORD spake, and came to Beth-lehem. And the elders of the town trembled at his coming, and said, Comest thou peaceably?

