

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

וְהַצְפָּה	ד	עַמְּדָה	בְּעֵל	לְפָמָגָן	בִּיזְרָעָל	הִרְאָה	אַתָּה
a watchman	And there stood	H5921	on the tower	H4026	in Jezreel	I see	H853
H6822	H5975		H3157		H7200		
שְׁפָעַת	תְּבָא	וְיָאַמֵּר	תְּשִׁפְעַת	תְּבָא	וְיָאַמֵּר	רִאָה	וְיָאַמֵּר
a company	of Jehu	as he came	and said	a company	H589	I see	and said
H8229	H3058	H935	H559	H8229		H7200	H559
וְיָאַמֵּר	לְקַרְאָתָם	בְּשִׁלּוּם	רִאָה	וְיָאַמֵּר	בְּשִׁלּוּם:	רִאָה	וְיָאַמֵּר
And Joram	Take	an horseman	and send	to meet	H7125	and said	Is it peace
H3088	H3947	H7395	H7971		H559		H7965

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?

