

# 2 Kings 9:18

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

So there went one on horseback to meet him, and said, Thus saith the king, Is it peace? And Jehu said, What hast thou to do with peace? turn thee behind me. And the watchman told, saying, The messenger came to them, but he cometh not again.

## Analysis

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**So there went one on horseback to meet him, and said, Thus saith the king, Is it peace? And Jehu said, What hast thou to do with peace? turn thee behind me. And the watchman told, saying, The messenger came to them, but he cometh not again.**

This verse contributes to the overall theme of chapter 9: Divine judgment executed on Ahab's house. The reference to kingship reminds readers that all human authority is subordinate to God's ultimate kingship. 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

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**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

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**James 2:17** — Faith and works

**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

## Study Questions

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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

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וְלֶךְ H1980	רַכָּב one on horseback H7392	הֵסֵס H5483	לִקְרָאתִי to meet H7125	כֹּה H3541	לֵאמֹר Thus saith H559	לֵאמֹר Thus saith H559	
הַמֶּלֶךְ the king H4428	וְלִשְׁלָמִים Is it peace H7965	לֵאמֹר Thus saith H559	וַיֹּאמֶר And Jehu H3058	מָה H4100	לָךְ H0	וְלִשְׁלָמִים Is it peace H7965	סֹבֵב turn H5437
אַל H413	אַחֲרָי thee behind H310	וַיֹּדַע told H5046	הַצִּפֹּקִי me And the watchman H6822	לֵאמֹר Thus saith H559	בָּא came H935	הַמַּלְאָךְ The messenger H4397	
עַד H5704	וְהֵם H1992	וְלֹא H3808	יָשֹׁב: to them but he cometh not again H7725				

## Additional Cross-References

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**2 Kings 9:19** (Kingdom): Then he sent out a second on horseback, which came to them, and said, Thus saith the king, Is it peace? And Jehu answered, What hast thou to do with peace? turn thee behind me.

**2 Kings 9:22** (Peace): And it came to pass, when Joram saw Jehu, that he said, Is it peace, Jehu? And he answered, What peace, so long as the whoredoms of thy mother Jezebel and her witchcrafts are so many?