

2 Kings 9:3

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then take the box of oil, and pour it on his head, and say, Thus saith the LORD, I have anointed thee king over Israel. Then open the door, and flee, and tarry not.

Analysis

Then take the box of oil, and pour it on his head, and say, Thus saith the LORD, I have anointed thee king over Israel. Then open the door, and flee, and tarry not.

This verse contributes to the overall theme of chapter 9: Divine judgment executed on Ahab's house. The divine name emphasizes Yahweh's covenant relationship with Israel and His sovereign control over historical events. 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

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

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

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

כִּי	אָמַר	רָאשׁ	וְ	עַל	יְצַקֵּת	בְּשֵׂן	מִן	פֶּרֶם	וְלִקְחַת	תֹּאכֵל	תְּמִימָה:	וְלֹא	לֹמַד	לְגַם	מְשִׁיחַת	יְהִי	הָיָה	לְךָ	אֶל	אֶל	וְשַׁרְאָל	וְפִתְחַת	כִּי	
Then saith	the box	of oil	and pour		H5921	it on his head		Thus saith																
H3947	H6378	H8081	H3332			H7218		H559																
Thus saith	the LORD	I have anointed	thee king		H413	over Israel		Then open																
H559	H3068	H4886	H4428			H3478		H6605																
the door	and flee		and tarry																					
H1817	H5127		H2442																					

Additional Cross-References

1 Kings 19:16 (Kingdom): And Jehu the son of Nimshi shalt thou anoint to be king over Israel: and Elisha the son of Shaphat of Abelmeholah shalt thou anoint to be prophet in thy room.

Exodus 29:7 (Parallel theme): Then shalt thou take the anointing oil, and pour it upon his head, and anoint him.

Matthew 2:13 (References Lord): And when they were departed, behold, the angel of the Lord appeareth to Joseph in a dream, saying, Arise, and take the young child and his mother, and flee into Egypt, and be thou there until I bring thee word: for Herod will seek the young child to destroy him.

Leviticus 8:12 (Parallel theme): And he poured of the anointing oil upon Aaron's head, and anointed him, to sanctify him.

2 Kings 8:13 (Kingdom): And Hazael said, But what, is thy servant a dog, that he should do this great thing? And Elisha answered, The LORD hath shewed me that thou shalt be king over Syria.

2 Chronicles 22:7 (References Lord): And the destruction of Ahaziah was of God by coming to Joram: for when he was come, he went out with Jehoram against Jehu the son of Nimshi, whom the LORD had anointed to cut off the house of Ahab.

1 Samuel 15:1 (Kingdom): Samuel also said unto Saul, The LORD sent me to anoint thee to be king over his people, over Israel: now therefore hearken thou unto the voice of the words of the LORD.

1 Samuel 16:2 (References Lord): And Samuel said, How can I go? if Saul hear it, he will kill me. And the LORD said, Take an heifer with thee, and say, I am come to sacrifice to the LORD.

1 Samuel 9:16 (References Israel): To morrow about this time I will send thee a man out of the land of Benjamin, and thou shalt anoint him to be captain over my people Israel, that he may save my people out of the hand of the Philistines: for I have looked upon my people, because their cry is come unto me.

1 Samuel 15:17 (Kingdom): And Samuel said, When thou wast little in thine own sight, wast thou not made the head of the tribes of Israel, and the LORD anointed thee king over Israel?

