

2 Samuel 1:15

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And David called one of the young men, and said, Go near, and fall upon him. And he smote him that he died.

Analysis

And David called one of the young men, and said, Go near, and fall upon him. And he smote him that he died.

This verse contributes to the narrative of David Learns of Saul's Death, emphasizing honoring God's anointed, genuine grief. The Hebrew terminology emphasizes David's respect for God's anointed (mashiach, מָשִׁיחַ) even after death. David's lament (vv. 19-27) represents some of Scripture's finest poetry, expressing genuine grief without compromising theological truth about Saul's disobedience. Cross-references to 1 Samuel demonstrate narrative continuity while developing themes of covenant faithfulness and proper mourning.

Historical Context

The historical setting of 2 Samuel 1 occurs during David's reign (circa 1010-970 BCE) over Israel's united monarchy. Archaeological discoveries, including the Tel Dan inscription mentioning the 'House of David,' corroborate biblical historicity. Ancient Near Eastern customs regarding honoring God's anointed, genuine grief provide crucial background. The geopolitical situation involved regional powers—Philistines, Ammonites, Arameans, Moabites, Edomites—as David consolidated and expanded Israel's territory. Cultural practices concerning kingship, warfare, covenant relationships, family dynamics, and religious observance differed significantly from modern Western contexts, requiring careful attention to avoid

anachronistic interpretation while extracting timeless theological principles applicable across cultures and eras.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

1 John 4:8 — God is love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Study Questions

1. How does this passage deepen your understanding of honoring God's anointed, genuine grief?
2. What does this verse reveal about God's character, and how should that shape your worship and obedience?
3. In what specific ways can you apply this truth to your current circumstances and relationships this week?

Interlinear Text

וְיָקֹר אֶת־דָּוִיד לְאַפְּדָה מִמְּבָנָר יְמִינָה וְאָמַר שׁוּעַל פְּגַע

called And David one of the young men and said Go near and fall

H7121

H1732

H259

H5288

H559

H5066

H6293

וְיָקֹר אֶת־דָּוִיד לְאַפְּדָה מִמְּבָנָר יְמִינָה וְאָמַר שׁוּעַל פְּגַע

H0

upon him And he smote him that he died

H5221

H4191