

2 Samuel 12:14

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Howbeit, because by this deed thou hast given great occasion to the enemies of the LORD to blaspheme, the child also that is born unto thee shall surely die.

Analysis

Howbeit, because by this deed thou hast given great occasion to the enemies of the LORD to blaspheme, the child also that is born unto thee shall surely die.

This verse contributes to the narrative of Nathan's Rebuke, emphasizing conviction, repentance, consequences. Nathan's prophetic confrontation using parable demonstrates effective rebuke methodology. David's immediate repentance ("I have sinned against the LORD") contrasts with Saul's defensive self-justification. The child's death demonstrates that forgiveness doesn't eliminate all consequences. Theological themes include God's hatred of sin, the necessity of repentance, the distinction between eternal and temporal consequences, and God's grace that continues despite devastating sin.

Historical Context

The historical setting of 2 Samuel 12 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 conviction, repentance, consequences 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

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Study Questions

1. How does this passage deepen your understanding of conviction, repentance, consequences?
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

וְהִנֵּה	אָבִים	אֶל	אֶת	נָא	צָפָת	נָא	צָפָת	וְהִנֵּה	אָבִים	אֶל	אֶת	נָא	צָפָת	נָא	צָפָת	וְהִנֵּה	אָבִים	אֶל	אֶת
Howbeit	H3588	great	occasion		great	occasion		H853	to	the	enemies		of	the	LORD				
H657		H5006		H5006		H341		H3068											
בְּמַעַת:		לְבָבֶךָ	לְבָבֶךָ	לְבָבֶךָ	לְבָבֶךָ	לְבָבֶךָ	לְבָבֶךָ		לְבָבֶךָ	לְבָבֶךָ	לְבָבֶךָ	לְבָבֶךָ	לְבָבֶךָ	לְבָבֶךָ	לְבָבֶךָ	לְבָבֶךָ	לְבָבֶךָ	לְבָבֶךָ	
because	by	this	deed		H2088	H1571	the	child		also	that	is	born		H0	die			
H1697							H1121		H3209						H4191				
מְתוּת:																			
die																			
H4191																			

Additional Cross-References

Romans 2:24 (Parallel theme): For the name of God is blasphemed among the Gentiles through you, as it is written.

Isaiah 52:5 (References Lord): Now therefore, what have I here, saith the LORD, that my people is taken away for nought? they that rule over them make them to howl, saith the LORD; and my name continually every day is blasphemed.

Revelation 3:19 (Parallel theme): As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent.

Hebrews 12:6 (References Lord): For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth.

Psalms 94:12 (References Lord): Blessed is the man whom thou chastenest, O LORD, and teachest him out of thy law;

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