

2 Samuel 14:15

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Now therefore that I am come to speak of this thing unto my lord the king, it is because the people have made me afraid: and thy handmaid said, I will now speak unto the king; it may be that the king will perform the request of his handmaid.

Analysis

Now therefore that I am come to speak of this thing unto my lord the king, it is because the people have made me afraid: and thy handmaid said, I will now speak unto the king; it may be that the king will perform the request of his handmaid.

This verse contributes to the narrative of Absalom's Return, emphasizing incomplete reconciliation. Joab's elaborate scheme to restore Absalom demonstrates human wisdom that undermines divine purposes. The partial reconciliation (Absalom returns but doesn't see David's face) proves insufficient for genuine restoration. Theological themes include the inadequacy of human reconciliation methods apart from genuine repentance, the danger of manipulation even for apparently good ends, and the necessity of complete rather than partial restoration.

Historical Context

The historical setting of 2 Samuel 14 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 incomplete reconciliation 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

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. How does this passage deepen your understanding of incomplete reconciliation?
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

אָשָׁר | עַתָּה בְּ אַתִּי אָדָבָרָה אֶל

H6258

H834

Now therefore that I am come I will now speak

H935

H1696

H413

בְּ מִלְּךָ

אֲדֹנִי

אַתָּה

דְּבָרָה of this thing

בְּ הַזֶּה דְּבָרָה

it may be that the king unto my lord of this thing

H4428

H113

H1697

H2088

H3588

יְאָנָּא נִ

בְּעֵם

וְתִּתְּאֹמַר

שִׁפְרָתָךְ

have made me afraid it is because the people said and thy handmaid

H3372

H5971

H559

H8198

יְמַשֵּׁה הַ אָוֶל אֶל בְּ אֶל אָדָבָרָה
I will now speak H4994 H413 it may be that the king H194 will perform

H1696

H4428

H6213

בְּ מִלְּךָ

אֲתָה

דְּבָרָה

אַמְתָּה

it may be that the king of this thing of his handmaid

H4428

H853

H1697

H519

From KJV Study • kjvstudy.org