

2 Samuel 14:9

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the woman of Tekoah said unto the king, My lord, O king, the iniquity be on me, and on my father's house: and the king and his throne be guiltless.

Analysis

And the woman of Tekoah said unto the king, My lord, O king, the iniquity be on me, and on my father's house: and the king and his throne be guiltless.

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

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

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

אָדָן	יְהוָה	עַל	וּבְמִלְחָמָה	אֶל	בְּתַקְוֹנִית	פָּאֵשׁ	הַ	וְתִּאְמֹר
said	And the woman				of Tekoa			
H559	H802				H8621			
אָבִיךְ	בְּ	בַּיִת	בְּעֵל	בְּעֵזֶב	אֶל	וּבְמִלְחָמָה	לְךָ	וּבְמִלְחָמָה
O king	the iniquity		house	be on me and on my father's	O king			
H4428	H5771		H1004		H4428			
וְכָסָא	וְ	בְּגִיאָה						
and his throne	be guiltless							
H3678	H5355							

Additional Cross-References

1 Samuel 25:24 (Sin): And fell at his feet, and said, Upon me, my lord, upon me let this iniquity be: and let thine handmaid, I pray thee, speak in thine audience, and hear the words of thine handmaid.

1 Kings 2:33 (References Lord): Their blood shall therefore return upon the head of Joab, and upon the head of his seed for ever: but upon David, and upon his seed, and upon his house, and upon his throne, shall there be peace for ever from the LORD.

Matthew 27:25 (Parallel theme): Then answered all the people, and said, His blood be on us, and on our children.

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