

2 Samuel 15:14

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And David said unto all his servants that were with him at Jerusalem, Arise, and let us flee; for we shall not else escape from Absalom: make speed to depart, lest he overtake us suddenly, and bring evil upon us, and smite the city with the edge of the sword.

Analysis

And David said unto all his servants that were with him at Jerusalem, Arise, and let us flee; for we shall not else escape from Absalom: make speed to depart, lest he overtake us suddenly, and bring evil upon us, and smite the city with the edge of the sword.

This verse contributes to the narrative of Absalom's Rebellion, emphasizing betrayal, trusting God in exile. Absalom's conspiracy demonstrates calculating betrayal and political manipulation. David's flight from Jerusalem parallels later exile experiences, developing themes of trusting God during devastating reversals. The Hebrew emphasizes Absalom's patient, methodical undermining of David's authority. Cross-references to Psalms written during this period (Psalms 3, 63) reveal David's spiritual responses to political catastrophe.

Historical Context

The historical setting of 2 Samuel 15 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 betrayal, trusting God in exile 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

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Study Questions

1. How does this passage deepen your understanding of betrayal, trusting God in exile?
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

אַתָּה	אֲשֶׁר	עָבֹדָתִי	לְכָל	דְּךָ	תַּיְתֵר	אָמַר
said	And David		H3605	unto all his servants		H854
H559	H1732			H5650		H834
לֹא	כִּי	וְגַם	קָה	לְקָה	וְמוֹתָה	בַּיְרּוּשָׁלָם
that were with him at Jerusalem	Arise	and let us flee	H3588	H3808	H1961	H0
H3389	H6965	H1272				
פְּלִיטָה	מִמֶּה	רַא	אֶבֶשֶׁל	מִמְּפִגָּה	לֹא	כִּי
for we shall not else escape	from	Absalom	make speed	H1980	H6435	H6413
H4116	H6440	H53	H4116			
בְּשַׁעַר	הַעֲלֵה	אֶת	עַל	יְנֻכוּ	וְהַשְׁגַּת	כִּי
make speed	lest he overtake	and bring	H5921	H853	H7451	H5381
H4116	H5381	H5080				
לְפִי	תְּרַבָּה					
upon us and smite	the city	with the edge	of the sword	H2719	H6310	H5892
H5221						

Additional Cross-References

2 Samuel 19:9 (Parallel theme): And all the people were at strife throughout all the tribes of Israel, saying, The king saved us out of the hand of our enemies, and he delivered us out of the hand of the Philistines; and now he is fled out of the land for Absalom.