

2 Samuel 15:17

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the king went forth, and all the people after him, and tarried in a place that was far off.

Analysis

And the king went forth, and all the people after him, and tarried in a place that was far off.

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

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

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

| | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|-----------|---------------------------|--------------|--------|-------|---------------|------------------------|
| וַיֵּצֵא | וְהִנֵּה | לְהַלֵּךְ | וְכָל | הַמִּלְחָמָה | בְּעֵד | וְאֶת | בְּרִכְבָּלָה | וְעַמְּדָה |
| went forth | And the king | H3605 | and all the people | H5971 | | | after | him and tarried |
| H3318 | H4428 | | | H5975 | | | H7272 | |

| | |
|-------------------|-------------------------|
| בְּיַתְּרָהָלָן: | בְּיַתְּרָהָלָן: |
| in a place | that was far off |
| H1004 | H4801 |

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