

2 Samuel 16:6

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And he cast stones at David, and at all the servants of king David: and all the people and all the mighty men were on his right hand and on his left.

Analysis

And he cast stones at David, and at all the servants of king David: and all the people and all the mighty men were on his right hand and on his left.

This verse contributes to the narrative of David's Humiliation, emphasizing suffering within God's sovereignty. David's humiliation through Shimei's cursing and Ziba's deception tests his faith in God's sovereignty. His refusal to punish Shimei demonstrates trust that God controls even unjust accusations. Ahithophel's counsel and Absalom's public sin with David's concubines fulfill Nathan's prophecy (12:11-12). Theological themes include suffering within God's sovereign plan, responding to unjust accusations with faith, and the full exposure of hidden sin.

Historical Context

The historical setting of 2 Samuel 16 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 suffering within God's sovereignty 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

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. How does this passage deepen your understanding of suffering within God's sovereignty?
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

וַיִּסֶקֶן ל	בָּאֲבָנִים	אֶת	דָּוִד	וְאֶת	כָּל	עַבְדֵי י
And he cast	stones	H853	David	H853	H3605	and at all the servants
H5619	H68		H1732			H5650
הַמֶּלֶךְ לְ	דָּוִד	וְכָל	הָעָם	וְכָל	הַגִּבּוֹרִים	
of king	David	H3605	and all the people	H3605	and all the mighty men	
H4428	H1732		H5971		H1368	
מִיְמֵינוּ	וּמִשְׁמָאלוֹ					
were on his right hand	and on his left					
H3225	H8040					