

2 Samuel 16:8

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The LORD hath returned upon thee all the blood of the house of Saul, in whose stead thou hast reigned; and the LORD hath delivered the kingdom into the hand of Absalom thy son: and, behold, thou art taken in thy mischief, because thou art a bloody man.

Analysis

The LORD hath returned upon thee all the blood of the house of Saul, in whose stead thou hast reigned; and the LORD hath delivered the kingdom into the hand of Absalom thy son: and, behold, thou art taken in thy mischief, because thou art a bloody man.

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

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

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

בֵּית	דָּם	יְמִין	כִּי	לֹא	יְהֹוָה	עַל	יְבָשָׁה	הַשִּׁיבָה	בָּשָׁר	הַשִּׁיבָה	בֵּית
hath returned	H5921	The LORD	H3605	because thou art a bloody	of the house						
H7725		H3068		H1818	H1004						
אֲשֶׁר	שָׁא	אַל	מֶלֶךְ	כִּי	פְּרַחַת	וְ	לְתָנֵן				
of Saul	H834	in whose stead thou hast reigned	H4427	H8478	hath delivered						
H7586				H5414							
וְהַבָּבָב	בֶּן	בָּבָב	אֲבִשָּׁל	וּמְ	הַמֶּלֶךְ	הַ	אַתָּה	יְהֹוָה	וְהַבָּבָב	בֶּן	בָּבָב
The LORD	H853	the kingdom	into the hand	H53	of Absalom	thy son	H2005				
H3068		H4410	H3027	H1121							
בְּכָה	עַתָּה	בְּ	אֲשֶׁר	כִּי	דָּם	יְמִין					
and behold thou art taken in thy mischief	H7451	H3588	man	H376	because thou art a bloody	H1818					
אַתָּה:											
H859											

Additional Cross-References

2 Samuel 1:16 (Blood): And David said unto him, Thy blood be upon thy head; for thy mouth hath testified against thee, saying, I have slain the LORD'S anointed.

Judges 9:24 (Blood): That the cruelty done to the threescore and ten sons of Jerubbaal might come, and their blood be laid upon Abimelech their brother, which slew them; and upon the men of Shechem, which aided him in the killing of his brethren.