

2 Samuel 17:5

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then said Absalom, Call now Hushai the Archite also, and let us hear likewise what he saith.

Analysis

Then said Absalom, Call now Hushai the Archite also, and let us hear likewise what he saith.

This verse contributes to the narrative of Competing Counsel, emphasizing divine providence over human wisdom. The contrast between Ahithophel's shrewd counsel and Hushai's divinely-blessed alternative demonstrates God's providential control over human wisdom. The text explicitly states "the LORD had appointed to defeat the good counsel of Ahithophel" (v. 14), emphasizing divine sovereignty. Ahithophel's suicide demonstrates despair when human wisdom fails. Theological themes include God's sovereignty over human planning, divine protection of His anointed, and the inadequacy of worldly wisdom apart from God.

Historical Context

The historical setting of 2 Samuel 17 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 divine providence over human wisdom 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 divine providence over human wisdom?
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

אָמַר	אַבְשָׁל וּם	קֹרָא	נָא	גַּם	לְחֹשֶׁשׁ י	הָאֲרָכָה י
Then said	Absalom	Call	H4994	H1571	now Hushai	the Archite
H559	H53	H7121			H2365	H757
וְנִשְׁמָע ה	מֶה	בְּכִי יוֹ		גַּם	הוּא:	
also and let us hear	H4100	likewise what he saith	H1571	H1931		
H8085		H6310				

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