

2 Samuel 18:22

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then said Ahimaaz the son of Zadok yet again to Joab, But howsoever, let me, I pray thee, also run after Cushie. And Joab said, Wherefore wilt thou run, my son, seeing that thou hast no tidings ready?

Analysis

Then said Ahimaaz the son of Zadok yet again to Joab, But howsoever, let me, I pray thee, also run after Cushie. And Joab said, Wherefore wilt thou run, my son, seeing that thou hast no tidings ready?

This verse contributes to the narrative of Absalom's Death, emphasizing tragedy of rebellion. Absalom's death despite David's orders demonstrates the tragic consequences of rebellion against God's anointed. The graphic description of Absalom caught in oak branches suggests divine judgment. David's overwhelming grief ("O my son Absalom") reveals parental love even for rebellious children. Theological themes include the tragedy of rebellion, the reality that sin leads to death, parental love's persistence, and the danger of prioritizing family over kingdom responsibilities.

Historical Context

The historical setting of 2 Samuel 18 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 tragedy of rebellion 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

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Study Questions

1. How does this passage deepen your understanding of tragedy of rebellion?
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

יֹאב ב אֶל וַיֹּאמֶר צָדוֹק בֶּן י אֶחֱיָם עֶץ ע וַיִּסָּף
yet again H3254 H5750 **Ahimaaz** H290 **my son** H1121 **of Zadok** H6659 **Then said** H559 H413 **And Joab** H3097

אֲחֵרִי אַיֵּי גַם בָּ א כָּץ לָמָּה ! יְהִי
H1961 **But howsoever** H4100 **Wherefore wilt thou run** H7323 H4994 H1571 H589 **after** H310

אֶתְּ הָ זֶה לָמָּה יֹאב ב וַיֹּאמֶר הַכּוֹשׁ י
Cushi H3569 **Then said** H559 **And Joab** H3097 **But howsoever** H4100 H2088 H859

בְּשׁוֹךְ הָ אֵין וּלְךָ הָ בֶּן י כָּץ
Wherefore wilt thou run H7323 **my son** H1121 H0 H369 **seeing that thou hast no tidings** H1309

מֵצֵאת:

ready
H4672