

2 Samuel 19:11

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And king David sent to Zadok and to Abiathar the priests, saying, Speak unto the elders of Judah, saying, Why are ye the last to bring the king back to his house? seeing the speech of all Israel is come to the king, even to his house.

Analysis

And king David sent to Zadok and to Abiathar the priests, saying, Speak unto the elders of Judah, saying, Why are ye the last to bring the king back to his house? seeing the speech of all Israel is come to the king, even to his house.

This verse contributes to the narrative of David's Return, emphasizing restoration, leadership wisdom. David's return to Jerusalem requires political wisdom as he navigates competing factions. His restoration of enemies (Shimei) and reward of supporters demonstrates leadership discernment. Theological themes include wise leadership during restoration, the complexity of post-crisis reconciliation, balancing justice and mercy, and the necessity of moving forward despite ongoing tensions.

Historical Context

The historical setting of 2 Samuel 19 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 restoration, leadership 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

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. How does this passage deepen your understanding of restoration, leadership 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

הַכֹּהֲנִים אֲבִיָּאתָר וְאֶל צָדוֹק אֶל שֵׁלַח דָּוִד הַמֶּלֶךְ
the priests **and to Abiathar** **and to Zadok** **sent** **David** **And king**
H3548 H54 H413 H6659 H413 H7971 H1732 H4428

תָּהִיוּ לָמָּה יֹאמַר יְהוּדָה זִקְנֵי אֶל דְּבַר וְיֹאמַר ר
H1961 **H4100** **saying** **of Judah** **unto the elders** **Speak** **saying**
H559 H559 H2205 H3063 H413 H1696 H559

בֵּיתוֹ: אֶל הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶת לִהְיוֹת יב אַחֲרָיִם
even to his house **And king** **back** **Why are ye the last**
H1004 H4428 H7725 H314

אֶל הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶל בָּא יִשְׂרָאֵל לְכָל וְדִבֵּר
And king **is come** **of all Israel** **seeing the speech**
H413 H935 H3478 H3605 H1697 H413 H4428

בֵּיתוֹ:
even to his house
H1004

Additional Cross-References

2 Samuel 15:29 (Parallel theme): Zadok therefore and Abiathar carried the ark of God again to Jerusalem: and they tarried there.