

2 Samuel 19:12

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Ye are my brethren, ye are my bones and my flesh: wherefore then are ye the last to bring back the king?

Analysis

Ye are my brethren, ye are my bones and my flesh: wherefore then are ye the last to bring back the king?

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

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

אַמְּרִים	אַמְּרִים	עָצְמִים	וּבָשָׁר	אַל	מָה	אַתָּה	מִ
Ye are my brethren	H859	ye are my bones	and my flesh	H859		H4100	
H251		H6106		H1320			
תָּהִיתִי	אַחֲרֵנִים	לְבָשָׁר	אַתָּה	בַּמֶּלֶךְ			
H1961	wherefore then are ye the last	to bring back	H853	the king	H4428		
	H314	H7725					

Additional Cross-References

2 Samuel 5:1 (Parallel theme): Then came all the tribes of Israel to David unto Hebron, and spake, saying, Behold, we are thy bone and thy flesh.