

2 Samuel 19:26

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And he answered, My lord, O king, my servant deceived me: for thy servant said, I will saddle me an ass, that I may ride thereon, and go to the king; because thy servant is lame.

Analysis

And he answered, My lord, O king, my servant deceived me: for thy servant said, I will saddle me an ass, that I may ride thereon, and go to the king; because thy servant is lame.

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

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

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

אָמַר	אֲדֹנָיִי	הַמֶּלֶךְ	עֲבָדְךָ:	רָמַיִי	כִּי
And he answered	My lord	O king	because thy servant	deceived	H3588
H559	H113	H4428	H5650	H7411	
אָמַר	עֲבָדְךָ:	אֶחָבְשָׁה	לִי	הֵחֵמ וֹר	וְאָרַכְּ בִּ
And he answered	because thy servant	I will saddle	H0	me an ass	that I may ride
H559	H5650	H2280		H2543	H7392
עַל יְהוָה	וְאֵלָּהּ	אֶת	הַמֶּלֶךְ	כִּי	פֶסֶחַ
H5921	H1980	H854	O king	H3588	is lame
			H4428	H6455	because thy servant
				H5650	

