

2 Samuel 19:28

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For all of my father's house were but dead men before my lord the king: yet didst thou set thy servant among them that did eat at thine own table. What right therefore have I yet to cry any more unto the king?

Analysis

For all of my father's house were but dead men before my lord the king: yet didst thou set thy servant among them that did eat at thine own table. What right therefore have I yet to cry any more unto 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

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

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

כִּי	לֹא	הִנֵּה	כֵּל	בְּיִת	אָבִי	כִּי	אָמַן	אָנָשִׁי
H3588	were but	H1961	H3605	house	For all of my father's	H3588	H518	H376
	H3808			H1004		H1		

אַת יְתַשֵּׂת
בַּמֶּלֶךְ לְאַדְנִי
מֵעַת before my lord any more unto the king yet didst thou set H853
H4194 H113 H4428 H7896

לְכַלְתִּים וְמִתְּהִלָּה שְׁלַמְנָה בְּאֶכְלָה בְּעָבֶדךְ

thy servant among them that did eat at thine own table therefore have

H5650 H398 H7979 H4100 H3426 H0

עִדְעַת הַצְדָקָה וְלֹא עִדְעַת אֶלָּא בְּמַלְכָה
H5750 **What right** H6666 H2199 H5750 H413 H4428
I yet to cry any more unto the king

Additional Cross-References

2 Samuel 9:13 (Kingdom): So Mephibosheth dwelt in Jerusalem: for he did eat continually at the king's table; and was lame on both his feet.

2 Samuel 9:10 (Parallel theme): Thou therefore, and thy sons, and thy servants, shall till the land for him, and thou shalt bring in the fruits, that thy master's son may have food to eat: but Mephibosheth thy master's son shall eat bread alway at my table. Now Ziba had fifteen sons and twenty servants.

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