

2 Samuel 19:39

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And all the people went over Jordan. And when the king was come over, the king kissed Barzillai, and blessed him; and he returned unto his own place.

Analysis

And all the people went over Jordan. And when the king was come over, the king kissed Barzillai, and blessed him; and he returned unto his own place.

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

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

שָׁבַר	כָל	בָּעֵם	אַתָּה	בָּרֶד	בָּתָר
was come over	H3605	And all the people	H853	Jordan	And when the king
H5674		H5971		H3383	H4428

שָׁבַר	וַיַּשְׁבַּת	בָּתָר	לְבָרְזִילִי	וַיַּבְרְכֵהוּ
was come over	kissed	And when the king	Barzillai	and blessed
H5674	H5401	H4428	H1271	H1288

בָּאָתָה	לְמִלְחָמָה:
him and he returned	unto his own place
H7725	H4725

Additional Cross-References

Genesis 31:55 (Blessing): And early in the morning Laban rose up, and kissed his sons and his daughters, and blessed them: and Laban departed, and returned unto his place.

Ruth 1:14 (Parallel theme): And they lifted up their voice, and wept again: and Orpah kissed her mother in law; but Ruth clave unto her.

Genesis 47:7 (Blessing): And Joseph brought in Jacob his father, and set him before Pharaoh: and Jacob blessed Pharaoh.

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