

2 Samuel 19:40

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then the king went on to Gilgal, and Chimham went on with him: and all the people of Judah conducted the king, and also half the people of Israel.

Analysis

Then the king went on to Gilgal, and Chimham went on with him: and all the people of Judah conducted the king, and also half the people of Israel.

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

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

וַיַּעַבְדֵּהוּ	הֶמָּה לֶךְ	הַגִּלְגָּל לָהּ	וְכִמְחָם	וַיַּעַבְדֵּהוּ	עִמּוֹ	וְכָל
conducted	Then the king	to Gilgal	and Chimham	conducted	H5973	H3605
H5674	H4428	H1537	H3643	H5674		
וְהָעָם	יְהוּדָה	וַיַּעַבְדֵּהוּ	אֶת	הֶמָּה לֶךְ	וְגַם	חֲצִי
the people	of Judah	conducted	H853	Then the king	H1571	and also half
H5971	H3063	H5674		H4428		H2677
וְהָעָם	יִשְׂרָאֵל:					
the people	of Israel					
H5971	H3478					

