

2 Samuel 19:43

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the men of Israel answered the men of Judah, and said, We have ten parts in the king, and we have also more right in David than ye: why then did ye despise us, that our advice should not be first had in bringing back our king? And the words of the men of Judah were fiercer than the words of the men of Israel.

Analysis

And the men of Israel answered the men of Judah, and said, We have ten parts in the king, and we have also more right in David than ye: why then did ye despise us, that our advice should not be first had in bringing back our king? And the words of the men of Judah were fiercer than the words of the men 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

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of 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

וַיַּעַן	אֶת יִשְׂרָאֵל:	אֶת יִשְׂרָאֵל:	אֶת יִשְׂרָאֵל:	וַיֹּדֶעַ הַיְּהוּדִים	וַיֹּדֶעַ הַיְּהוּדִים	וַיֹּדֶעַ הַיְּהוּדִים
answered	And the men	of Israel	H853	And the men	of Judah	and said
H6030	H376	H3478		H376	H3063	H559
עָשָׂר	לִי יָד וְזֶה	לִי יָד וְזֶה	לִי יָד וְזֶה	וְגַם	בְּדָוִד	אֲנִי
We have ten	parts	H0	in the king	H1571	have also more right in David	and we
H6235	H3027		H4428		H1732	H589
מִדְּבַר	וַיִּמְדּוּ וַיַּעַן	וַיִּמְדּוּ וַיַּעַן	וַיִּמְדּוּ וַיַּעַן	וְלֹא	הָיָה הַיְּהוּדִים	מִדְּבַר
H4480	H4069	than ye why then did ye despise	H7043	H3808	H1961	And the words
						H1697
רִאשׁוֹן	לִי יָד וְזֶה	לִי יָד וְזֶה	לִי יָד וְזֶה	אֶת	מִלְכֵּי יִשְׂרָאֵל	וַיִּקְשׁוּ
should not be first	H0	had in bringing back	H853	in the king	were fiercer	
H7223		H7725		H4428	H7185	
מִדְּבַר	אֶת יִשְׂרָאֵל:	אֶת יִשְׂרָאֵל:	אֶת יִשְׂרָאֵל:	אֶת יִשְׂרָאֵל:	אֶת יִשְׂרָאֵל:	אֶת יִשְׂרָאֵל:
And the words	And the men	of Judah	And the words	And the men	of Israel	
H1697	H376	H3063	H1697	H376	H3478	

Additional Cross-References

Galatians 5:20 (Parallel theme): Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies,

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