

2 Samuel 19:6

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

In that thou lovest thine enemies, and hatest thy friends. For thou hast declared this day, that thou regardest neither princes nor servants: for this day I perceive, that if Absalom had lived, and all we had died this day, then it had pleased thee well.

Analysis

In that thou lovest thine enemies, and hatest thy friends. For thou hast declared this day, that thou regardest neither princes nor servants: for this day I perceive, that if Absalom had lived, and all we had died this day, then it had pleased thee well.

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

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

אָהב יְיָ	אֶת	וְלֹשֶׁן א	וְלֹשֶׁן א	אֶת	אָהב יְיָ	כִּי יֵן
In that thou lovest	H853	and hatest	and hatest	H853	In that thou lovest	H3588
H157		H8130	H8130		H157	
הֵגִדְתָּ	הַיּוֹם	אֵין כִּי	לֵב			
For thou hast declared	for this day	H3588	H369	H0		
H5046	H3117					
שָׁר יִם	וְעֹבְדֵי יִם	כִּי יֵן	יֵד עֲתִי	הַיּוֹם	כִּי יֵן	
that thou regardest neither princes	nor servants	H3588	I perceive	for this day	H3588	
H8269	H5650		H3045	H3117		
א ל א	אֲבִשָׁל וֹם	חִי	וְכָל נֹ	הַיּוֹם	מֵת יִם	כִּי
that if	Absalom	had lived	H3605	for this day	and all we had died	H3588
H3863	H53	H2416		H3117	H4191	
א ז	יֵשׁ ר	בְּעִינֶיךָ:				
H227	then it had pleased thee well	H5869				
	H3477					