

2 Samuel 2:14

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Abner said to Joab, Let the young men now arise, and play before us. And Joab said, Let them arise.

Analysis

And Abner said to Joab, Let the young men now arise, and play before us. And Joab said, Let them arise.

This verse contributes to the narrative of David Becomes King of Judah, emphasizing divine timing, patience in promises. The Hebrew vayyimloch (וַיַּמְלֹךְ) marks David's official royal status over Judah at Hebron. The seven-year period before ruling all Israel demonstrates patient trust in God's timing. Theological themes include divine election, the gradual unfolding of God's promises through historical process, and the reality that human resistance to God's plans produces genuine suffering.

Historical Context

The historical setting of 2 Samuel 2 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 divine timing, patience in promises 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

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. How does this passage deepen your understanding of divine timing, patience in promises?
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

הַנּוּרִים נָא יְאַתֵּר יְאַבְנֵר וְאֶל יְאַמְרֵן
said And Abner H413 to Joab Let them arise H4994 Let the young men
H559 H74 H3097 H6965 H5288

וְאֶל יְאַתֵּר לְפָנֵינוּ וַיַּשְׁחַק וְאֶל יְאַבְנֵר
and play before said to Joab Let them arise
H7832 H6440 H559 H3097 H6965

Additional Cross-References

2 Samuel 2:17 (Parallel theme): And there was a very sore battle that day; and Abner was beaten, and the men of Israel, before the servants of David.