

2 Samuel 2:19

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Asahel pursued after Abner; and in going he turned not to the right hand nor to the left from following Abner.

Analysis

And Asahel pursued after Abner; and in going he turned not to the right hand nor to the left from following Abner.

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

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

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

עַל לֹּא כִּת נָט הַלְּא אֶבְנָר: מַאֲכָר יְשַׁהָא לְ וַיַּרְדֵּ פ
pursued And Asahel after Abner H3808 he turned H1980 H5921
H7291 H6214 H310 H74 H5186

אֶבְנָר: מַאֲכָר יְשַׁמֵּן אֹל וְעַל פִּימִין
not to the right hand H5921 nor to the left H8040 after Abner H310 H74
H3225

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