

2 Samuel 2:29

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Abner and his men walked all that night through the plain, and passed over Jordan, and went through all Bithron, and they came to Mahanaim.

Analysis

And Abner and his men walked all that night through the plain, and passed over Jordan, and went through all Bithron, and they came to Mahanaim.

This verse contributes to the narrative of David Becomes King of Judah, emphasizing divine timing, patience in promises. The Hebrew vayyimloch (וַיַּמְלֹךְ) 'and he reigned') 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

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 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

בְּהָ וְאַ	כָּל יְלָה	בְּעָרְבַּת	הַ	וְאַנְשָׁה	וְאַבְנָן	רַ
And Abner	and his men	walked	through the plain	H3605	all that night	H1931
H74	H582	H1980	H6160		H3915	

יעבר ו	בַּיִת	או	הברת וְ	כל	ילכו	ordan	את	יעבר ו
and passed over	H853	Jordan	walked	H3605	all Bithron	and they came		
H5674		H3383	H1980		H1338		H935	

מְחַנִּים

Additional Cross-References

2 Samuel 2:8 (Parallel theme): But Abner the son of Ner, captain of Saul's host, took Ish-bosheth the son of Saul, and brought him over to Mahanaim;

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