

2 Samuel 23:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The Spirit of the LORD spake by me, and his word was in my tongue.

Analysis

The Spirit of the LORD spake by me, and his word was in my tongue.

This verse contributes to the narrative of Last Words and Mighty Men, emphasizing legacy, faithful servants. David's last words emphasize the eternal covenant God established (v. 5) and declare principles of righteous rule. The accounts of David's mighty men demonstrate extraordinary courage and devotion. The water-drawing incident reveals David's unwillingness to value his comfort above his soldiers' lives. Theological themes include the importance of final testimonies, the eternal nature of God's covenant, the value of faithful servants, and the necessity of sacrificial leadership.

Historical Context

The historical setting of 2 Samuel 23 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 legacy, faithful servants 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 legacy, faithful servants?
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

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|-------------------|--------------------|--------------|------|---------------------------|-------|-------------------------|
| רוּחַ | יְהוָה | דִּבֶּר | בִּי | וּמִלַּת וְ | עַל | לְשׁוֹנִי: |
| The Spirit | of the LORD | spake | H0 | by me and his word | H5921 | was in my tongue |
| H7307 | H3068 | H1696 | | H4405 | | H3956 |

Additional Cross-References

2 Peter 1:21 (Spirit): For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.

Matthew 22:43 (Spirit): He saith unto them, How then doth David in spirit call him Lord, saying,

Mark 12:36 (Spirit): For David himself said by the Holy Ghost, The LORD said to my Lord, Sit thou on my right hand, till I make thine enemies thy footstool.

