

2 Samuel 3:25

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Thou knowest Abner the son of Ner, that he came to deceive thee, and to know thy going out and thy coming in, and to know all that thou doest.

Analysis

Thou knowest Abner the son of Ner, that he came to deceive thee, and to know thy going out and thy coming in, and to know all that thou doest.

This verse contributes to the narrative of Abner Defects and Dies, emphasizing political maneuvering, revenge consequences. This chapter illustrates the complexity of political transition and personal revenge. Abner's defection using covenant language (*brit*, בְּרִית) contrasts with Joab's treacherous murder, demonstrating how personal vengeance undermines national purposes. The text develops themes of legitimate vs illegitimate authority, the corrupting power of revenge, and maintaining integrity when others act unethically.

Historical Context

The historical setting of 2 Samuel 3 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 political maneuvering, revenge consequences 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 John 4:8 – God is love

1 Corinthians 13:4 – Characteristics of love

Study Questions

1. How does this passage deepen your understanding of political maneuvering, revenge consequences?
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

בְּ אַתָּה אֲבִיךָ בֶן נֶר אֲבִיךָ רַבִּי לְפִתְחָה עַת	H853	Abner	the son	of Ner	H3588	to deceive	that he came
H3045		H74	H1121	H5369		H6601	H935

כָּל אֵת וְלֹד עַת מִבְּאָבָן וְאַת מִזְאָבָן וְאַת מִזְאָבָן וְאַת מִזְאָבָן וְאַת מִזְאָבָן וְאַת מִזְאָבָן

עֲשֵׂה:	אַתָּה	אָשָׁר	H834	H859	all that thou doest	H6213
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Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 37:28 (Parallel theme): But I know thy abode, and thy going out, and thy coming in, and thy rage against me.

Deuteronomy 28:6 (Parallel theme): Blessed shalt thou be when thou comest in, and blessed shalt thou be when thou goest out.

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