

2 Samuel 8:9

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

When Toi king of Hamath heard that David had smitten all the host of Hadadezer,

Analysis

When Toi king of Hamath heard that David had smitten all the host of Hadadezer,

This verse contributes to the narrative of David's Military Victories, emphasizing God granting victory and expansion. David's military campaigns demonstrate God's promise-keeping (Genesis 15:18-21) regarding territorial boundaries. The Hebrew emphasizes that "the LORD gave David victory wherever he went," attributing success to divine enablement rather than mere military prowess. Theological themes include God's sovereignty over nations, the legitimacy of defensive/offensive warfare under certain circumstances, and proper use of conquered wealth for God's purposes.

Historical Context

The historical setting of 2 Samuel 8 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 God granting victory and expansion 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

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

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 God granting victory and expansion?
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

א תִּלְדֵּד יְהוָה כִּי תְּשִׁמְעֵעַ
heard When Toi king of Hamath H3588 had smitten that David H853
H8085 H8583 H4428 H2574 H5221 H1732

כָּל־יִשְׂרָאֵל בְּלִדְבִּיר: הַדָּדֵזֵר
H3605 all the host of Hadadezer H2428 H1909

Additional Cross-References

1 Kings 8:65 (Parallel theme): And at that time Solomon held a feast, and all Israel with him, a great congregation, from the entering in of Hamath unto the

river of Egypt, before the LORD our God, seven days and seven days, even fourteen days.

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