

1 Kings 1:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But Nathan the prophet, and Benaiah, and the mighty men,
and Solomon his brother, he called not.

Analysis

But Nathan the prophet, and Benaiah, and the mighty men, and Solomon his brother, he called not.

This verse contributes to the broader narrative of Solomon's accession and Adonijah's rebellion, within the book's focus on succession narrative and establishment of Solomon's reign. The prophetic office represents God's faithful witness even in apostasy, calling His people back to covenant faithfulness.

The Hebrew text reveals nuances important for understanding this passage's contribution to 1 Kings' theological message about kingship, covenant, and faithfulness to Yahweh. This verse demonstrates the consequences when God's people—especially their leaders—either follow or forsake the covenant established at Sinai.

Historical Context

First Kings was written during or after the Babylonian exile (6th century BCE), reflecting on the monarchy period (10th-9th centuries BCE) to explain why the kingdoms fell. This passage describes events around 970 BCE during the transition from David to Solomon.

Ancient Near Eastern kingship ideology viewed kings as divine representatives responsible for maintaining cosmic order through right worship. Archaeological

discoveries from sites like Megiddo, Hazor, and Samaria confirm the historical reliability of 1 Kings' descriptions of building projects and administrative structures.

Related Passages

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. How does this passage illustrate the importance of clear succession planning and communication in leadership transitions?
2. What does Solomon's consolidation of power reveal about the relationship between justice, mercy, and political necessity?
3. How does this verse point toward or prepare for the coming of Christ and His eternal kingdom?

Interlinear Text

| | | | | | | |
|-------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|-------|--------------------|-------|
| וְאֶת | נָתָן | הַנָּבִי יָא | וּבְנֵי הוּ | וְאֶת | הַגִּבּוֹרִים | וְאֶת |
| H853 | But Nathan | the prophet | and Benaiah | H853 | and the mighty men | H853 |
| | H5416 | H5030 | H1141 | | H1368 | |
| | | | | | | |
| וְשָׁלֹמֹה | אָחִיו | ל א | קָרָא: | | | |
| and Solomon | his brother | H3808 | he called | | | |
| H8010 | H251 | | H7121 | | | |

Additional Cross-References

2 Samuel 12:24 (Parallel theme): And David comforted Bath-sheba his wife, and went in unto her, and lay with her: and she bare a son, and he called his name Solomon: and the LORD loved him.

