

1 Kings 1:17

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And she said unto him, My lord, thou swarest by the LORD thy God unto thine handmaid, saying, Assuredly Solomon thy son shall reign after me, and he shall sit upon my throne.

Analysis

And she said unto him, My lord, thou swarest by the LORD thy God unto thine handmaid, saying, Assuredly Solomon thy son shall reign after me, and he shall sit upon my throne.

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 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

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

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

וַתֹּאמֶר	לֹ	אֲדֹנָי	אֶתְּ הָ	נִשְׁבַּ עֲתָ	בְּיְהוָה הָ
And she said	H0	unto him My lord	H859	thou swarest	by the LORD
H559		H113		H7650	H3068
אֱלֹהֵי יְ	לְאִמָּתְךָ	כִּי	שְׁלֹמֹה הָ	בְּנֵךָ	
thy God	unto thine handmaid	H3588	saying Assuredly Solomon	thy son	
H430	H519		H8010	H1121	
יִמְלֹךְ	אַחֲרָי	וְהָוָא	יֵשֵׁב	עַל	כִּסְאִי
shall reign	after	H1931	me and he shall sit	H5921	upon my throne
H4427	H310		H3427		H3678

Additional Cross-References

1 Kings 1:13 (Kingdom): Go and get thee in unto king David, and say unto him, Didst not thou, my lord, O king, swear unto thine handmaid, saying, Assuredly Solomon thy son shall reign after me, and he shall sit upon my throne? why then doth Adonijah reign?

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