

1 Kings 1:25

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For he is gone down this day, and hath slain oxen and fat cattle and sheep in abundance, and hath called all the king's sons, and the captains of the host, and Abiathar the priest; and, behold, they eat and drink before him, and say, God save king Adonijah.

Analysis

For he is gone down this day, and hath slain oxen and fat cattle and sheep in abundance, and hath called all the king's sons, and the captains of the host, and Abiathar the priest; and, behold, they eat and drink before him, and say, God save king Adonijah.

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

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

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

כִּי	יָרַד	הַיּוֹם	וַיַּזְבַּח	שׁוֹר	וּמְרִיא
H3588	For he is gone down	this day	and hath slain	oxen	and fat cattle
	H3381	H3117	H2076	H7794	H4806
וְצֹאן	לְרֹב	וַיִּקְרָא	לְכָל	בְּנֵי י	הֶמָּלֶךְ
and sheep	in abundance	and hath called	H3605	sons	all the king's
H6629	H7230	H7121		H1121	H4428
וְלִשְׂרֵי	הַצָּבָא	וַיִּלְאֲבֶתָר	הַכֹּהֵן	וְהֵנָּה	אָכְלֵי יָם
and the captains	of the host	and Abiathar	the priest	H2009	and behold they eat
H8269	H6635	H54	H3548		H398
וְשָׁתִי	לִפְנֵי יוֹ	וַיֹּאמֶר ו	יְיָ י	הֶמָּלֶךְ	אֲדֹנֵיהוּ:
and drink	before	him and say	God save	all the king's	Adonijah
H8354	H6440	H559	H2421	H4428	H138

Additional Cross-References

1 Samuel 10:24 (Salvation): And Samuel said to all the people, See ye him whom the LORD hath chosen, that there is none like him among all the people? And all the people shouted, and said, God save the king.

1 Kings 1:9 (Kingdom): And Adonijah slew sheep and oxen and fat cattle by the stone of Zohemoth, which is by En-rogel, and called all his brethren the king's sons, and all the men of Judah the king's servants:

1 Kings 1:19 (Kingdom): And he hath slain oxen and fat cattle and sheep in abundance, and hath called all the sons of the king, and Abiathar the priest, and Joab the captain of the host: but Solomon thy servant hath he not called.