

# 1 Kings 1:32

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And king David said, Call me Zadok the priest, and Nathan the prophet, and Benaiah the son of Jehoiada. And they came before the king.

## Analysis

**And king David said, Call me Zadok the priest, and Nathan the prophet, and Benaiah the son of Jehoiada. And they came before the king.**

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

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**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

## Study Questions

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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

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וַיֹּאמֶר | הַכֹּהן | לְצַדְקָה | וְלִזְכָּר | קְרָאוּ | זֶה | דְּבָרָה | וְיִאמְרָה |  
said      And king      David      Call      <sup>to</sup> me      Zadok      the priest      and Nathan  
H559      H4428      H1732      H7121      H6659      H3548      H5416

פֶּתַלְמָה | לִפְנֵי | וְיִבְרָא | וְלִבְנֵי | הַזָּקָן | וְלִבְנֵי | הַמֶּלֶךְ |  
the prophet      and Benaiah      the son      of Jehoiada      And they came      before      And king  
H5030      H1141      H1121      H3077      H935      H6440      H4428

## Additional Cross-References

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**1 Kings 1:8** (Prophecy): But Zadok the priest, and Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, and Nathan the prophet, and Shimei, and Rei, and the mighty men which belonged to David, were not with Adonijah.

