

# 1 Kings 1:33

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The king also said unto them, Take with you the servants of your lord, and cause Solomon my son to ride upon mine own mule, and bring him down to Gihon:

## Analysis

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**The king also said unto them, Take with you the servants of your lord, and cause Solomon my son to ride upon mine own mule, and bring him down to Gihon:**

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

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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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**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

**1 John 4:8** — God is love

**Psalms 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

## 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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אָמַר	וַיֹּאמֶר	לָהֶם	הַמֶּלֶךְ	וְקָח	אֶתְכֶם
also said	The king	H0	unto them	Take	H5973 H853
H559	H4428		H3947		
בְּנִי	שְׁלֹמֹה	אֶת	וְהִרְכַּבְתֶּם	אֶתְכֶם	עֲבָדֵי
my son	and cause Solomon	H853	to ride	H7392	with you the servants
H1121	H8010				H5650
אֶל	אֶתְכֶם	וְהוֹרִידְתֶּם	לִי	אֲשֶׁר	הַפָּרָדָה
H413	H853	and bring him down	H0	H834	upon mine own mule
		H3381			H6506
					עַל
					H5921
					גִּחֹן:
					to Gihon
					H1521

## Additional Cross-References

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**2 Chronicles 32:30** (Parallel theme): This same Hezekiah also stopped the upper watercourse of Gihon, and brought it straight down to the west side of the city of David. And Hezekiah prospered in all his works.

**1 Kings 1:38** (Kingdom): So Zadok the priest, and Nathan the prophet, and Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, and the Cherethites, and the Pelethites, went down, and caused Solomon to ride upon king David's mule, and brought him to Gihon.

**2 Chronicles 33:14** (Parallel theme): Now after this he built a wall without the city of David, on the west side of Gihon, in the valley, even to the entering in at the fish gate, and compassed about Ophel, and raised it up a very great height, and put captains of war in all the fenced cities of Judah.