

1 Kings 1:40

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And all the people came up after him, and the people piped with pipes, and rejoiced with great joy, so that the earth rent with the sound of them.

Analysis

And all the people came up after him, and the people piped with pipes, and rejoiced with great joy, so that the earth rent with the sound of them.

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

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

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

וַעֲלָה	כָּל	וְהָעָם	אַחֲרָיו	וְהָעָם	מְחַלְלֵי יָם
came up		And all the people	after	And all the people	piped
H5927	H3605	H5971	H310	H5971	H2490
בְּחִלְלֵי יָם	וַשְׂמִיחַ יָם	שְׂמִיחָהּ הָ	גְּדוֹלָהּ הָ	וַתִּבְכֶּן עַ	הָאָרֶץ
with pipes	and rejoiced	joy	with great	rent	so that the earth
H2485	H8056	H8057	H1419	H1234	H776
בְּקוֹלָם:					
with the sound					
H6963					

