

1 Kings 1:44

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the king hath sent with him Zadok the priest, and Nathan the prophet, and Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, and the Cherethites, and the Pelethites, and they have caused him to ride upon the king's mule:

Analysis

And the king hath sent with him Zadok the priest, and Nathan the prophet, and Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, and the Cherethites, and the Pelethites, and they have caused him to ride upon the king's mule:

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

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of 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

וְשָׁלַח חַנְכָּה אֶת הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶת זָדוֹק הַכֹּהֵן

hath sent H854 **And the king** H853 **with him Zadok** H6659 **the priest** H853

H7971

H4428

H3548

H853

וְנִתְּנַתְּנָה יְהוָה עַל יְהוּדָה וְכָרְתָּה

and Nathan H5416 **the prophet** H5030 **and Benaiah** H1141 **the son** H1121 **of Jehoiada** H3077 **and the Cherethites** H3774

H5416

H5030

H1141

H1121

H3077

H3774

וְפָלַת וְפָלַת

and the Pelethites and they have caused him to ride

H6432

H7392

פָּרָד תְּעַל אֶת זָ

H853

H5921

mule

H6506

מֶלֶךְ

And the king

H4428

From KJV Study • kjvstudy.org