

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

וְשַׁלַּח	אֶתְּ	הַמֶּלֶךְ:	אֶת	צָדוֹק	הַכֹּהֵן	וְאֶת
hath sent	H854	And the king	H853	with him Zadok	the priest	H853
H7971		H4428		H6659	H3548	
וְנָתַן	הַנָּבִיא	וּבְנֵי הוּ	בֶן	יְהוֹיָדָע	וְהַכֶּרֶתִּים	
and Nathan	the prophet	and Benaiah	the son	of Jehoiada	and the Cherethites	
H5416	H5030	H1141	H1121	H3077	H3774	
וְהַפִּלְתִּים	וְנָסַבּוּ	אֶת	ל	פָּרָדִים		
and the Pelethites	and they have caused him to ride	H853	H5921	mule		
H6432	H7392			H6506		
הַמֶּלֶךְ:						
And the king						
H4428						