

1 Kings 1:9

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Adonijah slew sheep and oxen and fat cattle by the stone of Zohemoth, which is by En-rogel, and called all his brethren the king's sons, and all the men of Judah the king's servants:

Analysis

And Adonijah slew sheep and oxen and fat cattle by the stone of Zohemoth, which is by En-rogel, and called all his brethren the king's sons, and all the men of Judah the king's servants:

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

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

וַיִּבַּח	אֶדְוִי הוּ	צֶאֱן	וּבָקָר	וּמִרְיָא	עִם	אֶבֶן	
slew	And Adonijah	sheep	and oxen	and fat cattle	H5973	by the stone	
H2076	H138	H6629	H1241	H4806		H68	
הַזֹּהֶלֶת	אֲשֶׁר	אֵלַי	עַיִן	רֵגֶל	וַקָּרָא	אֶת־כָּל	
of Zohemoth	H834	which is by	H0	Enrogel	and called	H853 H3605	
H2120		H681		H5883	H7121		
אֶחָיו	בְּנֵי	הַמֶּלֶךְ	וּלְכָל	אֲנָשִׁי	יְהוּדָה	עֲבָדֵי	הַמֶּלֶךְ
all his brethren	sons	the king's	H3605	H376	of Judah	servants	the king's
H251	H1121	H4428			H3063	H5650	H4428

Additional Cross-References

2 Samuel 17:17 (Kingdom): Now Jonathan and Ahimaaz stayed by En-rogel; for they might not be seen to come into the city: and a wench went and told them; and they went and told king David.

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