

1 Kings 10:13

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And king Solomon gave unto the queen of Sheba all her desire, whatsoever she asked, beside that which Solomon gave her of his royal bounty. So she turned and went to her own country, she and her servants.

Analysis

And king Solomon gave unto the queen of Sheba all her desire, whatsoever she asked, beside that which Solomon gave her of his royal bounty. So she turned and went to her own country, she and her servants.

This verse contributes to the broader narrative of queen of sheba and solomon's wealth, within the book's focus on Solomon's wisdom, temple building, and tragic apostasy.

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. Solomon's reign (c. 970-930 BCE) represented Israel's golden age of peace and prosperity.

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

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Study Questions

1. How did Solomon's disobedience to God's clear commands lead to his downfall, and what warnings does this provide?
2. What role do relationships and alliances play in either strengthening or compromising our faith?
3. How does this verse point toward or prepare for the coming of Christ and His eternal kingdom?

Interlinear Text

הַמֶּלֶךְ לְ	שְׁלֹמֹה הַ	נָתַן	לְמַלְכֶּת	שֶׁבַּא אֶת	כָּל	חֲפָצָהּ
And king	Solomon	gave	unto the queen	of Sheba	H853 H3605	all her desire
H4428	H8010	H5414	H4436	H7614		H2656
אֲשֶׁר	שָׂאָה לָּהּ	מִלְּבַד	אֲשֶׁר	נָתַן	לָּהּ	כֶּדֶד
H834	whatsoever she asked	H905	H834	gave	H0	bounty
	H7592			H5414		H3027
שְׁלֹמֹה הַ	וַתִּפֹּן	וַתֵּלֶךְ	לְאַרְצָהּ	הָיָא	וְעַבְדֶּיהָ:	
Solomon	So she turned	H1980	to her own country	H1931	she and her servants	
H8010	H6437		H776		H5650	

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 20:4 (Parallel theme): Grant thee according to thine own heart, and fulfil all thy counsel.

Psalms 37:4 (Parallel theme): Delight thyself also in the LORD; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.

Ephesians 3:20 (Parallel theme): Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us,

Matthew 15:28 (Parallel theme): Then Jesus answered and said unto her, O woman, great is thy faith: be it unto thee even as thou wilt. And her daughter was made whole from that very hour.

1 Kings 9:1 (Kingdom): And it came to pass, when Solomon had finished the building of the house of the LORD, and the king's house, and all Solomon's desire which he was pleased to do,

1 Kings 10:2 (Parallel theme): And she came to Jerusalem with a very great train, with camels that bare spices, and very much gold, and precious stones: and when she was come to Solomon, she communed with him of all that was in her heart.