

1 Kings 10:28

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Solomon had horses brought out of Egypt, and linen yarn: the king's merchants received the linen yarn at a price.

Analysis

And Solomon had horses brought out of Egypt, and linen yarn: the king's merchants received the linen yarn at a price.

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

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

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

וּמוֹצָא	הָסוּסִים	אֶשֶׁר	לְשֹׁלֹמֹה	מִמִּצְרַיִם	מִקְוֵה
brought	had horses		And Solomon	out of Egypt	and linen yarn
H4161	H5483	H834	H8010	H4714	H4723
סֹחְרֵי	הַמֶּלֶךְ	יָקוּחַ	מִקְוֵה	בְּמַחִיר:	
merchants	the king's	received	and linen yarn	at a price	
H5503	H4428	H3947	H4723	H4242	

Additional Cross-References

Deuteronomy 17:16 (References Egypt): But he shall not multiply horses to himself, nor cause the people to return to Egypt, to the end that he should multiply horses: forasmuch as the LORD hath said unto you, Ye shall henceforth return no more that way.

2 Chronicles 9:28 (References Egypt): And they brought unto Solomon horses out of Egypt, and out of all lands.

Isaiah 36:9 (References Egypt): How then wilt thou turn away the face of one captain of the least of my master's servants, and put thy trust on Egypt for chariots and for horsemen?

Proverbs 7:16 (References Egypt): I have decked my bed with coverings of tapestry, with carved works, with fine linen of Egypt.

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