

1 Kings 10:9

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Blessed be the LORD thy God, which delighted in thee, to set thee on the throne of Israel: because the LORD loved Israel for ever, therefore made he thee king, to do judgment and justice.

Analysis

Blessed be the LORD thy God, which delighted in thee, to set thee on the throne of Israel: because the LORD loved Israel for ever, therefore made he thee king, to do judgment and justice.

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

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

1 John 4:8 — God is love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

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

יְהִי־ H1961	בָּרוּךְ־ H3068	אֱלֹהִים־ H430	בָּרוּךְ־ H1288	אֲשֶׁר־ H834	זֶה־ H2654	בָּרוּךְ־ H0
be the LORD	thy God	Blessed		which delighted		
לְתַתְּכֶנּוּ in thee to set	עַל־ H5921	כִּסְאֵם־ thee on the throne		יִשְׂרָאֵל Israel	בָּאֶחָבְתָּ loved	אַתָּה־ be the LORD
H5414		H3678		H3478	H160	H853
יִשְׂרָאֵל Israel	לְעוֹלָם־ for ever	וַיִּשְׁמַךְ־ therefore made	לְמַלְכָךְ־ he thee king	לְמַלְכָה־ to do	מִשְׁפָט־ judgment	
H3478	H5769	H7760	H4428	H6213	H4941	
וּצְדָקָה and justice						
	H6666					

Additional Cross-References

1 Kings 5:7 (Blessing): And it came to pass, when Hiram heard the words of Solomon, that he rejoiced greatly, and said, Blessed be the LORD this day, which hath given unto David a wise son over this great people.

Psalms 72:2 (Righteousness): He shall judge thy people with righteousness, and thy poor with judgment.

2 Samuel 8:15 (Righteousness): And David reigned over all Israel; and David executed judgment and justice unto all his people.

Isaiah 42:1 (Judgment): Behold my servant, whom I uphold; mine elect, in whom my soul delighteth; I have put my spirit upon him: he shall bring forth judgment to the Gentiles.

2 Chronicles 2:11 (Love): Then Huram the king of Tyre answered in writing, which he sent to Solomon, Because the LORD hath loved his people, he hath made thee king over them.

Psalms 22:8 (Light): He trusted on the LORD that he would deliver him: let him deliver him, seeing he delighted in him.

Psalms 18:19 (Light): He brought me forth also into a large place; he delivered me, because he delighted in me.

1 Chronicles 17:22 (References God): For thy people Israel didst thou make thine own people for ever; and thou, LORD, becamest their God.

2 Samuel 23:3 (Righteousness): The God of Israel said, the Rock of Israel spake to me, He that ruleth over men must be just, ruling in the fear of God.

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