

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

יְהוָה	יְהוָה	אֱלֹהֵי יְרֵמְיָה	בָּרַךְ וְיָרָא	אֲשֶׁר	חִפּוּ	בְּכִי
H1961	be the LORD	thy God	Blessed	H834	which delighted	H0
	H3068	H430	H1288		H2654	
לְתִתְּךָ	עַל	כִּסֵּא	יִשְׂרָאֵל	בְּאַהֲבָה	יְהוָה	אֶת
in thee to set	H5921	thee on the throne	Israel	loved	be the LORD	H853
H5414		H3678	H3478	H160	H3068	
יִשְׂרָאֵל	לְעֹלָם	וַיַּשְׁמֵךְ	לְךָ לֵךְ	לַעֲשׂוֹת	מִשְׁפָּט	
Israel	for ever	therefore made	he thee king	to do	judgment	
H3478	H5769	H7760	H4428	H6213	H4941	
וְצִדִּיקָה:						
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 Hiram 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.

From KJV Study • kjevstudy.org