

1 Kings 11:16

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

(For six months did Joab remain there with all Israel, until he had cut off every male in Edom:)

Analysis

(For six months did Joab remain there with all Israel, until he had cut off every male in Edom:)

This verse contributes to the broader narrative of Solomon's apostasy and death, 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

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

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

כִּי	שֵׁשׁ	חֳדָשִׁים	יָשָׁב	שָׁם	יֹאבָב	וְכָל	יִשְׂרָאֵל
H3588	For six	months	remain	H8033	did Joab	H3605	there with all Israel
	H8337	H2320	H3427		H3097		H3478
עַד	הִכָּר ית	כָּל	זָכָר	בְּאֶדְוֹם:			
H5704	until he had cut off	H3605	every male	in Edom			
	H3772		H2145	H123			
