

1 Kings 11:17

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

That Hadad fled, he and certain Edomites of his father's servants with him, to go into Egypt; Hadad being yet a little child.

Analysis

That Hadad fled, he and certain Edomites of his father's servants with him, to go into Egypt; Hadad being yet a little child.

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

1 John 4:8 — God is love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics 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

אָבִיךָ	עֲבָדָיו	אֶלְמִינִים	תִּאְכַּשׁ	יְמִינְךָ	הַוָּא	אַיִלְךָ	תִּגְבַּחַךָ
fled	That Hadad	H1931	H376	Edomites	servants	of his father's	
H1272	H111			H130	H5650		H1

אַתָּה	לְבָבְךָ	מִצְרָיִם	תִּפְנַדְךָ	גַּעַר	לְבָבְךָ	אַתָּה
H854	with him to go	into Egypt	Hadad	child	being yet a little	
H935		H4714	H1908	H5288	H6996	

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