

1 Kings 11:19

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Hadad found great favour in the sight of Pharaoh, so that he gave him to wife the sister of his own wife, the sister of Tahpenes the queen.

Analysis

And Hadad found great favour in the sight of Pharaoh, so that he gave him to wife the sister of his own wife, the sister of Tahpenes the queen.

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 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

1 John 4:8 — God is 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

וַיַּמְצָא	וְיָמַד	וְיָמַד	בְּעֵינֵי	בְּעֵינֵי	פָּרָעַה	פָּרָעַה	מְאֹד	מְאֹד	יָתַר	יָתַר
found	And Hadad	favour	in the sight	of Pharaoh	great	so that he gave				
H4672	H1908	H2580	H5869	H6547	H3966	H5414				

וְיָמַד	וְיָמַד	בְּעֵינֵי	בְּעֵינֵי	פָּרָעַה	פָּרָעַה	יָסַבֵּן	יָסַבֵּן	תַּחַפֵּן	תַּחַפֵּן	הַגְּבִירָה	הַגְּבִירָה
him to wife	him to wife	the sister	the sister	him to wife	him to wife	the sister	the sister	of Tahpenes	of Tahpenes	the queen	the queen
H802	H853	H269	H269	H802	H802	H269	H269	H8472	H8472	H1377	H1377

Additional Cross-References

Acts 7:10 (Parallel theme): And delivered him out of all his afflictions, and gave him favour and wisdom in the sight of Pharaoh king of Egypt; and he made him governor over Egypt and all his house.

Genesis 39:21 (Parallel theme): But the LORD was with Joseph, and shewed him mercy, and gave him favour in the sight of the keeper of the prison.

Genesis 41:45 (Parallel theme): And Pharaoh called Joseph's name Zaphnath-paaneah; and he gave him to wife Asenath the daughter of Poti-pherah priest of On. And Joseph went out over all the land of Egypt.

Genesis 39:4 (Parallel theme): And Joseph found grace in his sight, and he served him: and he made him overseer over his house, and all that he had he put into his hand.

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