

# 1 Kings 11:21

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And when Hadad heard in Egypt that David slept with his fathers, and that Joab the captain of the host was dead, Hadad said to Pharaoh, Let me depart, that I may go to mine own country.

## Analysis

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**And when Hadad heard in Egypt that David slept with his fathers, and that Joab the captain of the host was dead, Hadad said to Pharaoh, Let me depart, that I may go to mine own country.**

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

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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

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**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

## Study Questions

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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

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|                     |            |               |             |             |      |
|---------------------|------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|------|
| וְיֵדָה             | שָׁמַע     | בְּמִצְרָיִם  | שָׁכַב      | לִידָה      | עִם  |
| And when Hadad      | heard      | in Egypt      | slept       | that David  | 5973 |
| H1908               | H8085      | H4714         | H7901       | H1732       |      |
| וְיֵדָה             | שָׁמַע     | בְּמִצְרָיִם  | שָׁכַב      | לִידָה      | עִם  |
| with his fathers    | was dead   | and that Joab | the captain | of the host | said |
| H1                  | H4191      | H3097         | H8269       | H6635       | H559 |
| וְיֵדָה             | שָׁמַע     | בְּמִצְרָיִם  | שָׁכַב      | לִידָה      | עִם  |
| And when Hadad      | to Pharaoh | Let me depart |             |             |      |
| H1908               | H413       | H6547         | H1980       | H413        |      |
| וְיֵדָה             | שָׁמַע     | בְּמִצְרָיִם  | שָׁכַב      | לִידָה      | עִם  |
| to mine own country |            |               |             |             |      |
|                     |            |               |             |             |      |
| אֶרְצִים            |            |               |             |             |      |
|                     |            |               |             |             |      |

## Additional Cross-References

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**1 Kings 2:10** (References David): So David slept with his fathers, and was buried in the city of David.

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