

# 1 Kings 11:22

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then Pharaoh said unto him, But what hast thou lacked with me, that, behold, thou seekest to go to thine own country? And he answered, Nothing: howbeit let me go in any wise.

## Analysis

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**Then Pharaoh said unto him, But what hast thou lacked with me, that, behold, thou seekest to go to thine own country? And he answered, Nothing: howbeit let me go in any wise.**

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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**1 Corinthians 13:4** — Characteristics of love

**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

## 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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וַיֹּאמֶר	לֹ	פַּרְעֹה	כִּי	מָה	אֵת
And he answered	H0	Then Pharaoh	H3588	H4100	H859
H559		H6547			
חֲסִיר	עַמִּי	וְהִנֵּךְ	מִבֶּקְשִׁי		
unto him But what hast thou lacked	H5973	H2005	with me that behold thou seekest		
H2638			H1245		
אֶל	אֶרֶץ	וַיֹּאמֶר	לֹ	כִּי	אֵת
H1980	H413	to thine own country	And he answered	H3808	H3588
	H776		H559		
תִּשְׁלַחְנִי:	תִּשְׁלַחְנִי:				
Nothing howbeit let me go	Nothing howbeit let me go				
H7971	H7971				

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