

1 Kings 11:25

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And he was an adversary to Israel all the days of Solomon, beside the mischief that Hadad did: and he abhorred Israel, and reigned over Syria.

Analysis

And he was an adversary to Israel all the days of Solomon, beside the mischief that Hadad did: and he abhorred Israel, and reigned over Syria.

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

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

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

וְאֵת שְׁלֹמֹה הַיְהוּנִי | שָׁטָן | בִּישְׁרָאֵל | כָּל יְמִינֵךְ | בִּישְׁרָאֵל | שְׁלֹמֹה הַיְהוּנִי |
H1961 **And he was an adversary** H7854 Israel H3605 **all the days** H3117 of Solomon H854
H3478 H6973 H8010

בִּישְׁרָאֵל | בְּרַע הַשְׁמַדְתָּה | אֲשֶׁר | בְּרַע הַשְׁמַדְתָּה | בְּרַע הַשְׁמַדְתָּה |
beside the mischief H834 that Hadad H1908 did and he abhorred H6973 Israel H3478
H7451 H5921 H758

עַל תִּמְלָה | אֶרְםָה |
and reigned H5921 over Syria H4427 H758