

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

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| וַיְהִי י' H1961 | שָׁטָן H7854 | בְּיִשְׂרָאֵל ל' H3478 | כָּל H3605 | יְמֵי י' H3117 | שְׁלֹמֹה ה' H8010 | וְאֵת H854 |
| בְּצִדְדֵי הַרְעָה H7451 | אֲשֶׁר H834 | הָיָה ד' H1908 | וַיִּקְצֹץ H6973 | בְּיִשְׂרָאֵל ל' H3478 | | |
| וַיִּמְלֹךְ H4427 | עַל H5921 | אֲרָם: H758 | | | | |
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| beside the mischief | | that Hadad | did and he abhorred | Israel | | |
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| and reigned | | over Syria | | | | |