

1 Kings 11:32

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

(But he shall have one tribe for my servant David's sake, and for Jerusalem's sake, the city which I have chosen out of all the tribes of Israel:)

Analysis

(But he shall have one tribe for my servant David's sake, and for Jerusalem's sake, the city which I have chosen out of all the tribes of Israel:)

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

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

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

שְׁבֵטִי י	הָאֶחָד ד	לִי וְיְהוָה	לְמַעַן	עַבְדִּי
out of all the tribes	But he shall have one	H1961	H0	H4616
H7626	H259			H5650
דָּוִד	וּלְמַעַן	יְרוּשָׁלַם	הָעִיר	אֲשֶׁר
David's	H4616	sake and for Jerusalem's	sake the city	H834
H1732		H3389	H5892	
בְּחִי רָחֵמִי	מִכָּל ל	שְׁבֵטִי י	יִשְׂרָאֵל:	
which I have chosen	H0	H3605	out of all the tribes	of Israel
H977			H7626	H3478

Additional Cross-References

1 Kings 11:13 (References David): Howbeit I will not rend away all the kingdom; but will give one tribe to thy son for David my servant's sake, and for Jerusalem's sake which I have chosen.

From KJV Study • kjevstudy.org