

# 1 Kings 11:34

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Howbeit I will not take the whole kingdom out of his hand: but I will make him prince all the days of his life for David my servant's sake, whom I chose, because he kept my commandments and my statutes:

## Analysis

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**Howbeit I will not take the whole kingdom out of his hand: but I will make him prince all the days of his life for David my servant's sake, whom I chose, because he kept my commandments and my statutes:**

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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**Psalm 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

## 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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כִּי מִידָּה בְּמַלְכֵה הַמְּלָכָה הַמְּלָכָה הַמְּלָכָה הַמְּלָכָה  
אַל אֶקְחֶנָּה אֶת כָּל אֶת כָּל אֶת כָּל אֶת כָּל  
H3808 Howbeit I will not take H3947 H853 H3605 H4467 H3027 H3588  
בְּנֵשׁ יָא אָשַׁת כָּל יְמִינֵי תְּבִיא לִמְעֵן  
him prince but I will make H3605 H7896 H3117 H2416 H4616 H1732  
H5387 H3117 H2416 H4616 H1732  
עֲבָדִי אֲשֶׁר אֶת זֶה בְּמִרְצֵי אֲשֶׁר אֶת זֶה  
my servant's H834 sake whom I chose H853 H834 H8104  
H5650 H977 H853 H834 H8104  
מִצְוֹתִי וְחִקְרָבִי  
my commandments and my statutes H4687 H2708

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