

1 Kings 11:40

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Solomon sought therefore to kill Jeroboam. And Jeroboam arose, and fled into Egypt, unto Shishak king of Egypt, and was in Egypt until the death of Solomon.

Analysis

Solomon sought therefore to kill Jeroboam. And Jeroboam arose, and fled into Egypt, unto Shishak king of Egypt, and was in Egypt until the death of Solomon.

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

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

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

וַיִּבְקֹשׁ שׁ	שְׁלֹמֹה:	לְהַמִּית ית	אֶת	וַיָּרֶבֶץ מ	וַיִּקָּם	וַיָּרֶבֶץ מ
sought	Solomon	therefore to kill	H853	And Jeroboam	arose	And Jeroboam
H1245	H8010	H4191		H3379	H6965	H3379
וַיִּפְּחַח	בְּמִצְרַיִם	אֶל	שִׁישַׁק ק	מֶלֶךְ	בְּמִצְרַיִם	וַיְהִי י
and fled	and was in Egypt	H413	unto Shishak	king	and was in Egypt	H1961
H1272	H4714		H7895	H4428	H4714	
בְּמִצְרַיִם	עַד	מֵוָת	שְׁלֹמֹה:			
and was in Egypt	H5704	until the death	Solomon			
H4714		H4194	H8010			