

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

רָבָע	מִ	וַיַּקְרֵב	וְ	שְׁלָמָה:	וַיַּבְקַע	שָׁ
sought	Solomon	therefore to kill	at	Shishak	and Jeroboam	arose
H1245	H8010	H4191	H853	H3379	H3379	H6965
וַיַּגְּבַע	בְּמִצְרָיִם	מֶלֶךְ	וְ	וְ	בְּמִצְרָיִם	וְ
and fled	and was in Egypt	king	Shishak	and was in Egypt	and was in Egypt	and was in Egypt
H1272	H4714	H4428	H7895	H4714	H4714	H1961
וְ	מִתְּעִדָּה	וְ	שְׁלָמָה:	וְ	מִתְּעִדָּה	וְ
and was in Egypt	until the death	Solomon	and was in Egypt			
H4714	H5704	H4194	H8010	H4714	H4714	H1961