

1 Kings 11:6

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Solomon did evil in the sight of the LORD, and went not fully after the LORD, as did David his father.

Analysis

And Solomon did evil in the sight of the LORD, and went not fully after the LORD, as did David his father.

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

1 John 4:8 — God is love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

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

וְלֹא יְהִי הַבְּעִינָה בְּעֵינֵי שְׁלָמָן הַזֶּה וְעָשָׂה
did And Solomon evil in the sight of the LORD H3808
H6213 H8010 H7451 H5869 H3068

מִלֹּא אָבִיו כִּי דָךְ יְהִי הַאֲחֶרֶن כִּי אָבִיו
and went not fully after of the LORD as did David his father
H4390 H310 H3068 H1732 H1

Additional Cross-References

Numbers 14:24 (Parallel theme): But my servant Caleb, because he had another spirit with him, and hath followed me fully, him will I bring into the land whereinto he went; and his seed shall possess it.

