

1 Kings 11:8

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And likewise did he for all his strange wives, which burnt incense and sacrificed unto their gods.

Analysis

And likewise did he for all his strange wives, which burnt incense and sacrificed unto their gods.

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 sacrificial system points forward to Christ's ultimate sacrifice, fulfilling all temple offerings (Hebrews 10:1-18).

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

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

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

מִקְטִיר וְתַּּבְּנֵנְתִּי וְתַּּבְּנֵנְתִּי וְתַּּבְּנֵנְתִּי
H3651 And likewise did H3605 wives H802 he for all his strange H5237 which burnt incense H6999

לְאֱלֹהִים: מִזְבֵּח וְתַּּבְּנֵנְתִּי
H2076 H430
and sacrificed unto their gods

From KJV Study • kjvstudy.org