

1 Kings 11:9

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the LORD was angry with Solomon, because his heart was turned from the LORD God of Israel, which had appeared unto him twice,

Analysis

And the LORD was angry with Solomon, because his heart was turned from the LORD God of Israel, which had appeared unto him twice,

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

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

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

וַיִּזְאֵן ה'	יְהוָה	בְּשִׁלֹּמֹה	כִּי	נָטָה	לִבּוֹ
was angry	And the LORD	with Solomon	H3588	was turned	because his heart
H599	H3068	H8010		H5186	H3824
מֵעַם	יְהוָה	אֱלֹהֵי	יִשְׂרָאֵל	הַנִּרְאָה	אֵל יוֹ
H5973	And the LORD	God	of Israel	which had appeared	H413
	H3068	H430	H3478	H7200	
פַּעַמַּיִם:					
unto him twice					
H6471					

Additional Cross-References

1 Kings 3:5 (References God): In Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night: and God said, Ask what I shall give thee.

1 Kings 9:2 (References Lord): That the LORD appeared to Solomon the second time, as he had appeared unto him at Gibeon.

Exodus 4:14 (References Lord): And the anger of the LORD was kindled against Moses, and he said, Is not Aaron the Levite thy brother? I know that he can speak well. And also, behold, he cometh forth to meet thee: and when he seeth thee, he will be glad in his heart.

Deuteronomy 3:26 (References Lord): But the LORD was wroth with me for your sakes, and would not hear me: and the LORD said unto me, Let it suffice thee; speak no more unto me of this matter.

Deuteronomy 9:8 (References Lord): Also in Horeb ye provoked the LORD to wrath, so that the LORD was angry with you to have destroyed you.

Deuteronomy 7:4 (References God): For they will turn away thy son from following me, that they may serve other gods: so will the anger of the LORD be kindled against you, and destroy thee suddenly.

Deuteronomy 9:20 (References Lord): And the LORD was very angry with Aaron to have destroyed him: and I prayed for Aaron also the same time.

Numbers 12:9 (References Lord): And the anger of the LORD was kindled against them; and he departed.

2 Samuel 6:7 (References God): And the anger of the LORD was kindled against Uzzah; and God smote him there for his error; and there he died by the ark of God.