

# 1 Kings 13:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

So he went another way, and returned not by the way that he came to Beth-el.

## Analysis

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**So he went another way, and returned not by the way that he came to Beth-el.**

This verse contributes to the broader narrative of the man of god from judah, within the book's focus on spiritual decline of both kingdoms under various rulers.

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

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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. This period (c. 930-850 BCE) saw rapid succession and instability, especially in the northern kingdom.

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

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**John 3:16** — God's love and salvation

**Romans 10:9** — Confession and belief for salvation

**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

**1 John 4:8** — God is love

## Study Questions

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1. How does this passage illustrate the importance of complete obedience to God's word without compromise?
2. What does Elijah's ministry reveal about God's character and His commitment to His covenant people?
3. How does this verse point toward or prepare for the coming of Christ and His eternal kingdom?

## Interlinear Text

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אֲשֶׁר בַּדְּרָא שׁב בַּדְּרָא יְלָא אֲחֵר בַּדְּרָא

H1980 not by the way H1870 H312 H3808 and returned H7725 H1870 H834

H1870

H312

H7725

H1870

H834

אַל בֵּית אַל בְּהַאֲלֹת

that he came to Bethel

H935

H0

H413

H0

to Bethel

H1008