

# 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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וַיֵּלֶךְ	בְּדֶרֶךְ	אַחֵר	וְלֹא	שָׁב	בְּדֶרֶךְ	אֲשֶׁר
H1980	<b>not by the way</b>	<b>another</b>	H3808	<b>and returned</b>	<b>not by the way</b>	H834
	H1870	H312		H7725	H1870	
כִּי	בָּה	אֶל	בֵּית	בֶּ֑תֶל		
<b>that he came</b>	H0	H413	H0	<b>to Bethel</b>		
H935				H1008		