

# 1 Kings 13:11

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Now there dwelt an old prophet in Beth-el; and his sons came and told him all the works that the man of God had done that day in Beth-el: the words which he had spoken unto the king, them they told also to their father.

## Analysis

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**Now there dwelt an old prophet in Beth-el; and his sons came and told him all the works that the man of God had done that day in Beth-el: the words which he had spoken unto the king, them they told also to their father.**

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 prophetic office represents God's faithful witness even in apostasy, calling His people back to covenant faithfulness.

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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**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

**Psalms 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

## 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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וְנָבִיא	אֶחָד	זָקֵן	יָשָׁב	בְּבֵית	אֵל	וָיָבֹא	
prophet	an	old	Now there dwelt	H0	in Bethel	came	
H5030	H259	H2205	H3427		H1008	H935	
וּבָנָיו	וַיֹּסֶפֶר	לֵאמֹר	כָּל	הַמַּעֲשֵׂה	אֲשֶׁר	עָשָׂה	
and his sons	and told	H0	H853	H3605	him all the works	H834	had done
H1121	H5608			H4639		H6213	
אִישׁ	הָאֵלֹהִים	הַיּוֹם	בְּבֵית	אֵל	אֵת	הַדְּבָרִים	
that the man	of God	that day	H0	in Bethel	H853	the words	
H376	H430	H3117		H1008		H1697	
אֲשֶׁר	דִּבֶּר	אֵל	הַמֶּלֶךְ	וַיֹּסֶפֶר	לְאֲבִיהֶם:		
H834	which he had spoken	H413	unto the king	and told	also to their father		
	H1696		H4428	H5608	H1		

## Additional Cross-References

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**2 Kings 23:18** (Prophecy): And he said, Let him alone; let no man move his bones. So they let his bones alone, with the bones of the prophet that came out of Samaria.