

1 Kings 13:27

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And he spake to his sons, saying, Saddle me the ass. And they saddled him.

Analysis

And he spake to his sons, saying, Saddle me the ass. And they saddled him.

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

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

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

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

וַיִּדְבַּר	אֶל	בְּנָיו	לֵאמֹר	וַתִּסָּבְדוּ:	אֶת	לִי
And he spake	H413	to his sons	saying	And they saddled	H0	H853
H1696		H1121	H559	H2280		
הִתְחַמֵּן	וַתִּסָּבְדוּ:					
me the ass	And they saddled					
H2543	H2280					