

1 Kings 13:28

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And he went and found his carcase cast in the way, and the ass and the lion standing by the carcase: the lion had not eaten the carcase, nor torn the ass.

Analysis

And he went and found his carcase cast in the way, and the ass and the lion standing by the carcase: the lion had not eaten the carcase, nor torn the ass.

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

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

בְּקַרְבָּוֹר:	בַּדְּ רֹא	מִשְׁלָכָת	בְּגַבְּלַה	אֲתָּה	תִּמְצָא	אֵלֶּךָ	וְיָלֹךְ
H1980	and found	H853	his carcase		cast	in the way	and the ass
	H4672		H5038		H7993	H1870	H2543
בְּקַרְבָּוֹר:	לֹא	בְּגַבְּלַה	אֵלֶּךָ	עָמַד יְמִין	בְּקַרְבָּוֹר:	אָכַל	בְּקַרְבָּוֹר:
and the lion	standing	by	his carcase	H3808	had not eaten	and the lion	
H738	H5975	H681	H5038		H398	H738	
בְּקַרְבָּוֹר:	אֲתָּה	שָׁבַר	וְלֹא	בְּגַבְּלַה	אֲתָּה	שָׁבַר	בְּקַרְבָּוֹר:
his carcase	H3808	nor torn	H853	and the ass			
H853			H7665				H2543

Additional Cross-References

Acts 16:26 (Parallel theme): And suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken: and immediately all the doors were opened, and every one's bands were loosed.

Job 38:11 (Parallel theme): And said, Hitherto shalt thou come, but no further: and here shall thy proud waves be stayed?

1 Kings 17:6 (Parallel theme): And the ravens brought him bread and flesh in the morning, and bread and flesh in the evening; and he drank of the brook.

1 Kings 17:4 (Parallel theme): And it shall be, that thou shalt drink of the brook; and I have commanded the ravens to feed thee there.

Daniel 3:22 (Parallel theme): Therefore because the king's commandment was urgent, and the furnace exceeding hot, the flame of the fire slew those men that took up Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego.

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