

1 Kings 13:5

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The altar also was rent, and the ashes poured out from the altar, according to the sign which the man of God had given by the word of the LORD.

Analysis

The altar also was rent, and the ashes poured out from the altar, according to the sign which the man of God had given by the word of the LORD.

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 sacrificial system points forward to Christ's ultimate sacrifice, fulfilling all temple offerings (Hebrews 10:1-18).

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

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

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

הַמִּזְבֵּחַ הַ	נִקְרַע עַ	וַשִּׁפּוּ הַ	הַדָּשָׁן	מִן	הַמִּזְבֵּחַ הַ
The altar	also was rent	poured out	and the ashes	H4480	The altar
H4196	H7167	H8210	H1880		H4196
כַּמּוֹפֵּת	אֲשֶׁר	נָתַן	אֶת	הָאֱלֹהִים	בְּדִבְרֵי
according to the sign	H834	had given	which the man	of God	by the word
H4159		H5414	H376	H430	H1697
יְהוָה:					
of the LORD					
H3068					

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