

1 Kings 13:9

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For so was it charged me by the word of the LORD, saying,
Eat no bread, nor drink water, nor turn again by the same way
that thou camest.

Analysis

For so was it charged me by the word of the LORD, saying, Eat no bread, nor drink water, nor turn again by the same way that thou camest.

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

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

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

לֹא	מְלֹא	לֹא	צָוָה	אַתָּה	בְּדָבָר	יְהוָה	רֹאמֶת
H3588	H3651		For so was it charged	H853	me by the word	of the LORD	saying
			H6680		H1697	H3068	H559
לֹא	אָכַל	לֹא	חַמֵּם	תְּשַׁבְתָּה	מִם	וְבַ	תְּשַׁבְתָּה
H3808	Eat	H398	no bread	H3808	nor drink	H3808	nor turn again
			H3899		H8354	H4325	H7725
בְּזֹהַר	רֹאשׁ	רֹאשׁ	בְּזֹהַר	כַּלְכָּלָתָה:			
by the same way	H1870	H834		that thou camest	H1980		