

1 Kings 14:17

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Jeroboam's wife arose, and departed, and came to Tirzah: and when she came to the threshold of the door, the child died;

Analysis

And Jeroboam's wife arose, and departed, and came to Tirzah: and when she came to the threshold of the door, the child died;

This verse contributes to the broader narrative of Jeroboam's judgment and Rehoboam's reign, 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

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

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

וְאֵלֹהִים	יָצַא	וְאֵשֶׁת	וְאֵת	וְקָם	וְאֵלֹהִים	יָצַא	וְאֵת	וְקָם	וְאֵלֹהִים	יָצַא	וְאֵת	וְקָם	
arose	wife	And Jeroboam's		H1980	and came	to Tirzah		H1931					
H6965	H802	H3379			H935	H8656							

וְאֵלֹהִים	יָצַא	וְאֵשֶׁת	וְאֵת	וְקָם	וְאֵלֹהִים	יָצַא	וְאֵת	וְקָם	וְאֵלֹהִים	יָצַא	וְאֵת	וְקָם	
and came	to the threshold	of the door			the child	died							
H935	H5592	H1004			H5288	H4191							

Additional Cross-References

1 Kings 15:33 (Parallel theme): In the third year of Asa king of Judah began Baasha the son of Ahijah to reign over all Israel in Tirzah, twenty and four years.

1 Kings 15:21 (Parallel theme): And it came to pass, when Baasha heard thereof, that he left off building of Ramah, and dwelt in Tirzah.

1 Kings 16:23 (Parallel theme): In the thirty and first year of Asa king of Judah began Omri to reign over Israel, twelve years: six years reigned he in Tirzah.

1 Kings 16:15 (Parallel theme): In the twenty and seventh year of Asa king of Judah did Zimri reign seven days in Tirzah. And the people were encamped against Gibbethon, which belonged to the Philistines.

Song of Solomon 6:4: Thou art beautiful, O my love, as Tirzah, comely as Jerusalem, terrible as an army with banners.

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