

1 Kings 14:24

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And there were also sodomites in the land: and they did according to all the abominations of the nations which the LORD cast out before the children of Israel.

Analysis

And there were also sodomites in the land: and they did according to all the abominations of the nations which the LORD cast out before the children of Israel.

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

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

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

וְגַם	שְׁמַד	בַּיִת	בְּאֶרֶץ	עָשָׂו	פְּכַל
H1571	And there were also sodomites	H1961	in the land	and they did	H3605
	H6945		H776	H6213	
according to all the abominations	of the nations		אֲשֶׁר	וְיֶשְׁ	וְיָהִי
H8441	H1471		H834	H3423	H3068
before	the children	of Israel			
H6440	H1121	H3478			

Additional Cross-References

Deuteronomy 23:17 (References Israel): There shall be no whore of the daughters of Israel, nor a sodomite of the sons of Israel.

1 Corinthians 6:9 (Parallel theme): Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind,

1 Kings 15:12 (Parallel theme): And he took away the sodomites out of the land, and removed all the idols that his fathers had made.

2 Kings 23:7 (References Lord): And he brake down the houses of the sodomites, that were by the house of the LORD, where the women wove hangings for the grove.

Genesis 19:5 (Parallel theme): And they called unto Lot, and said unto him, Where are the men which came in to thee this night? bring them out unto us, that we may know them.

1 Kings 22:46 (Parallel theme): And the remnant of the sodomites, which remained in the days of his father Asa, he took out of the land.

Judges 19:22 (Parallel theme): Now as they were making their hearts merry, behold, the men of the city, certain sons of Belial, beset the house round about,

and beat at the door, and spake to the master of the house, the old man, saying,
Bring forth the man that came into thine house, that we may know him.

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