

1 Kings 15:19

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

There is a league between me and thee, and between my father and thy father: behold, I have sent unto thee a present of silver and gold; come and break thy league with Baasha king of Israel, that he may depart from me.

Analysis

There is a league between me and thee, and between my father and thy father: behold, I have sent unto thee a present of silver and gold; come and break thy league with Baasha king of Israel, that he may depart from me.

This verse contributes to the broader narrative of kings of judah and israel: abijam, asa, nadab, baasha, 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

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

1 John 4:8 — God is love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of 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

בְּרִיתָב	אָבִיךְ	אָבִיךְ	אָבִיךְ	אָבִיךְ	אָבִיךְ	אָבִיךְ
There is a league	H996	H996	H996	and thy father	H996	and thy father
	H1285			H1		H1
הִנֵּה	לְבָנָה	שֶׁלֶת	לְבָנָה	שְׁמֵדָה	כְּסָף	לְבָנָה
H2009	behold I have sent	H7971	H0	unto thee a present	H7810	of silver
					H3701	and gold
						H1980
אֶת	בְּרִיתָב	אֶת	בְּרִיתָב	בְּעֵשָׂא	מֶלֶךְ	אֶשְׁבָּא
and break	H853	There is a league	H1285	with Baasha	H4428	of Israel
H6565		H854		H1201		H3478
מַעַלְיָה	יִמְלָא	ה				
that he may depart	H5921					
	H5927					

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