

# 1 Kings 15:22

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then king Asa made a proclamation throughout all Judah; none was exempted: and they took away the stones of Ramah, and the timber thereof, wherewith Baasha had builded; and king Asa built with them Geba of Benjamin, and Mizpah.

## Analysis

**Then king Asa made a proclamation throughout all Judah; none was exempted: and they took away the stones of Ramah, and the timber thereof, wherewith Baasha had builded; and king Asa built with them Geba of Benjamin, and Mizpah.**

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

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**Genesis 1:1** — Creation of heavens and earth

**Psalm 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

## Study Questions

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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

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וְאַתָּה	לְרֹא	אֶת	בְּמִן	הַשְׁמָמָה	יָעַשְׂתָּה	כָּל	אֶת	יְהוּדָה	וְאַתָּה	
Then	king	Asa		made a proclamation		H853	H3605	throughout all Judah	H369	
H4428	H609			H8085				H3063		
וְאַתָּה	לְרֹא	אֶת	בְּמִן	הַשְׁמָמָה	יָעַשְׂתָּה	כָּל	אֶת	יְהוּדָה	וְאַתָּה	
none	was exempted		and	they took		H853	away the stones	of Ramah	H853	
H5355				H5375			H68	H7414		
וְאַתָּה	לְרֹא	אֶת	בְּמִן	הַשְׁמָמָה	יָעַשְׂתָּה	כָּל	אֶת	בְּמִן	וְאַתָּה	
and	the timber		built	thereof wherewith Baasha		H834	Baasha	built	H0	
H6086		H1129		H1201				H1129		
וְאַתָּה	לְרֹא	אֶת	בְּמִן	בְּנִים	וְאַתָּה	בְּמִצְפָּה	וְאַתָּה	בְּמִצְפָּה	וְאַתָּה	
Then	king	Asa	H853	with them Geba	H1144	of Benjamin	H853	and Mizpah	H4709	
H4428	H609			H1387						

## Additional Cross-References

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**Joshua 21:17** (Parallel theme): And out of the tribe of Benjamin, Gibeon with her suburbs, Geba with her suburbs,

**Joshua 18:24** (Parallel theme): And Chephar-haammonai, and Ophni, and Gaba; twelve cities with their villages:

**Joshua 18:26** (Parallel theme): And Mizpeh, and Chephirah, and Mozah,