

1 Kings 15:26

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And he did evil in the sight of the LORD, and walked in the way of his father, and in his sin wherewith he made Israel to sin.

Analysis

And he did evil in the sight of the LORD, and walked in the way of his father, and in his sin wherewith he made Israel to sin.

This verse contributes to the broader narrative of kings of Judah and Israel: Abijah, 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

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

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

וַיַּעַשׂ	הָרַב ע	בְּעֵינַי י	יְהוָה	וַיִּלֶּךְ	בְּדֶרֶךְ	אָבִי י
And he did	evil	in the sight	of the LORD	H1980	in the way	of his father
H6213	H7451	H5869	H3068		H1870	H1
וּבְחַטָּאת ו	אָשׁ ר	הִחָטֵּי יֵא	אֶת	יִשְׂרָאֵל:		
and in his sin	H834	to sin	H853	wherewith he made Israel		
H2403		H2398		H3478		

Additional Cross-References

1 Kings 14:16 (Creation): And he shall give Israel up because of the sins of Jeroboam, who did sin, and who made Israel to sin.

1 Kings 15:30 (Creation): Because of the sins of Jeroboam which he sinned, and which he made Israel sin, by his provocation wherewith he provoked the LORD God of Israel to anger.

1 Kings 15:34 (Creation): And he did evil in the sight of the LORD, and walked in the way of Jeroboam, and in his sin wherewith he made Israel to sin.

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