

1 Kings 15:29

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And it came to pass, when he reigned, that he smote all the house of Jeroboam; he left not to Jeroboam any that breathed, until he had destroyed him, according unto the saying of the LORD, which he spake by his servant Ahijah the Shilonite:

Analysis

And it came to pass, when he reigned, that he smote all the house of Jeroboam; he left not to Jeroboam any that breathed, until he had destroyed him, according unto the saying of the LORD, which he spake by his servant Ahijah the Shilonite:

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 temple represents God's dwelling among His people and foreshadows Christ as Immanuel ('God with us').

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

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

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

וַיְהִי י	כְּמֶלֶךְ ו	הִכָּה	אֶת	כָּל	בֵּית
H1961	And it came to pass when he reigned	that he smote	H853	H3605	all the house
	H4427	H5221			H1004
לִיְרֹבָם	לֹא	כָּל	נִשְׁמָה	לִיְרֹבָם	עַד
not to Jeroboam	H3808	he left	H3605	any that breathed	not to Jeroboam
H3379		H7604	H5397	H3379	H5704
הַשָּׁמַד ו	כַּדְּבָר	יְהוָה	אָשַׁר		
until he had destroyed	him according unto the saying	of the LORD	H834		
H8045	H1697	H3068			
דָּבָר	בְּיַד	עַבְדּוֹ	אֶתִּי	הַשִּׁילֹנִי	
which he spake	by	his servant	Ahijah	the Shilonite	
H1696	H3027	H5650	H281	H7888	

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