

# 1 Kings 15:4

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Nevertheless for David's sake did the LORD his God give him a lamp in Jerusalem, to set up his son after him, and to establish Jerusalem:

## Analysis

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**Nevertheless for David's sake did the LORD his God give him a lamp in Jerusalem, to set up his son after him, and to establish Jerusalem:**

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

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1 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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**Romans 10:9** — Confession and belief for salvation

**John 3:16** — God's love and salvation

## 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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לֹא	אֱלֹהֵי יוֹ	יְהוָה הֵ	נָתַן	דָּוִד	לָמַעַן כִּי
	his God	sake did the LORD	give	Nevertheless for David's	
	H430	H3068	H5414	H1732	H3588 H4616
וְלִהְיוֹתָ	אֵחָכָה יוֹ	בְּנוֹ	אֶת	לְהִקְיִם	יְרוּשָׁלַם:
him and to establish	after	his son		to set up	Jerusalem
H5975	H310	H1121	H853	H6965	H3389 H5216
					יְרוּשָׁלַם:
					אֶת
					H853 Jerusalem
					H3389

## Additional Cross-References

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**1 Kings 11:36** (References David): And unto his son will I give one tribe, that David my servant may have a light alway before me in Jerusalem, the city which I have chosen me to put my name there.

**2 Chronicles 21:7** (References Lord): Howbeit the LORD would not destroy the house of David, because of the covenant that he had made with David, and as he promised to give a light to him and to his sons for ever.

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