

1 Kings 15:6

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And there was war between Rehoboam and Jeroboam all the days of his life.

Analysis

And there was war between Rehoboam and Jeroboam all the days of his life.

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

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

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

וּמִלְחָמָה הָ	בֵּין הָיְתָה הָ	בֵּין הָ	רְחֹבָם	וְיֵרֹבָם	וְיֵרֹבָם	כָּל
And there was war	H1961	H996	between Rehoboam	H996	and Jeroboam	H3605
H4421			H7346		H3379	
יָמָיו	כָּל יְמֵי					
all the days	of his life					
H3117	H2416					

Additional Cross-References

1 Kings 14:30 (Parallel theme): And there was war between Rehoboam and Jeroboam all their days.