

1 Kings 17:22

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the LORD heard the voice of Elijah; and the soul of the child came into him again, and he revived.

Analysis

And the LORD heard the voice of Elijah; and the soul of the child came into him again, and he revived.

This verse contributes to the broader narrative of Elijah and the drought, within the book's focus on prophetic ministry of Elijah confronting Baalism. The prophetic office represents God's faithful witness even in apostasy, calling His people back to covenant faithfulness.

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. Elijah's ministry (c. 860-850 BCE) occurred during Ahab's reign, a time of intense spiritual crisis in Israel.

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

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

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

שָׁמַע עַ	וְיְהִי בְּקָרְבָּן	וְאֶלְיָהוּ	שָׁב	תְּפִשָּׁה	לִדְ
heard	And the LORD	the voice	of Elijah	again	and the soul
H8085	H3068	H6963	H452	H7725	H5315
					H3206
עַל	וְיְהִי	וְאֶלְיָהוּ	וְשָׁב	וְתְּפִשָּׁה	וְלִדְ
H5921	into him	and he revived			
	H7130	H2421			

Additional Cross-References

Revelation 11:11 (Parallel theme): And after three days and an half the Spirit of life from God entered into them, and they stood upon their feet; and great fear fell upon them which saw them.

Deuteronomy 32:39 (Parallel theme): See now that I, even I, am he, and there is no god with me: I kill, and I make alive; I wound, and I heal: neither is there any that can deliver out of my hand.

Hebrews 11:35 (Parallel theme): Women received their dead raised to life again: and others were tortured, not accepting deliverance; that they might obtain a better resurrection:

Romans 14:9 (References Lord): For to this end Christ both died, and rose, and revived, that he might be Lord both of the dead and living.

John 11:43 (Parallel theme): And when he thus had spoken, he cried with a loud voice, Lazarus, come forth.

2 Kings 13:21 (Parallel theme): And it came to pass, as they were burying a man, that, behold, they spied a band of men; and they cast the man into the sepulchre of Elisha: and when the man was let down, and touched the bones of Elisha, he revived, and stood up on his feet.

1 Samuel 2:6 (References Lord): The LORD killeth, and maketh alive: he bringeth down to the grave, and bringeth up.

Acts 20:12 (Parallel theme): And they brought the young man alive, and were not a little comforted.

Luke 8:54 (Parallel theme): And he put them all out, and took her by the hand, and called, saying, Maid, arise.