

1 Kings 17:3

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Get thee hence, and turn thee eastward, and hide thyself by the brook Cherith, that is before Jordan.

Analysis

Get thee hence, and turn thee eastward, and hide thyself by the brook Cherith, that is before Jordan.

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 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

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by 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

לְךָ	מִן הַ	וְפָנֶיךָ	לְבָתָה	וְנִסְתַּרְתָּ
H1980	H2088	thee hence and turn	H0	thee eastward and hide
		H6437	H6924	H5641
בְּרִיאָה	עַל	פָנִים	בְּרִיאָה	
thyself by the brook	Cherith	that is before	Jordan	
H5158	H3747	H834	H6440	H3383

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