

1 Kings 17:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And it came to pass after a while, that the brook dried up,
because there had been no rain in the land.

Analysis

And it came to pass after a while, that the brook dried up, because there had been no rain in the land.

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

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

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' H1961	מִקֵּץ H7093	וַיְהִי יָמִים H3117	וַיֵּבֶשׁ H3001	הַנָּחַל H5158	כִּי H3588	לֹא H3808
	And it came to pass after	a while	dried up	that the brook		
הָיָה H1961	בְּשֵׁם H1653	בְּאֶרֶץ H776				
	because there had been no rain	in the land				

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 54:10 (Parallel theme): For the mountains shall depart, and the hills be removed; but my kindness shall not depart from thee, neither shall the covenant of my peace be removed, saith the LORD that hath mercy on thee.

