

# 1 Kings 18:13

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Was it not told my lord what I did when Jezebel slew the prophets of the LORD, how I hid an hundred men of the LORD'S prophets by fifty in a cave, and fed them with bread and water?

## Analysis

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**Was it not told my lord what I did when Jezebel slew the prophets of the LORD, how I hid an hundred men of the LORD'S prophets by fifty in a cave, and fed them with bread and water?**

This verse contributes to the broader narrative of Elijah and the prophets of baal, 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

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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

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**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

**Genesis 1:1** — Creation of heavens and earth

## 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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בְּלֹא גַּעַשׂ יְתִי אֲשֶׁר אָתָּה לְאָדָן

H3808

Was it not told

H5046

my lord

הָגַד

H113

H853

לְאָדָן

H834

אֲשֶׁר

בְּהָרֶג עָשָׂה יְתִי

H6213

what I did

H2026

slew

יְהִי הָמְגִבְיאָה תְּאַחֲבָה מְגִבְיאָה תְּאַחֲבָה

when Jezebel prophesies of the LORD how I hid prophesies of the LORD

H348

H853

prophets

H5030

יְהִי הָמְגִבְיאָה

H3068

תְּאַחֲבָה

H2244

prophets

H5030

יְהִי הָמְגִבְיאָה

H3068

אֲכַלְכֵל מִבְּמַעַךְ הָאִישׁ מִאֶרֶת

an hundred

men

by fifty

סְמִשׁ יָם

H2572

אִישׁ בְּמַעַךְ

H376

men

and fed

H3557

לְצַמְמִים:

them with bread and water

H3899

H4325

## Additional Cross-References

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**1 Kings 18:4** (Prophecy): For it was so, when Jezebel cut off the prophets of the LORD, that Obadiah took an hundred prophets, and hid them by fifty in a cave, and fed them with bread and water.)

**Matthew 25:35** (Parallel theme): For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: