

# 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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הֲלֹא	הֲגִיד	לְאֲדֹנִי	אֵת	אֲשֶׁר	עָשָׂה יְדִי	בְּהָרַג
H3808	Was it not told	my lord	H853	H834	what I did	slew
	H5046	H113			H6213	H2026
אִיזָּכָר	אֵת	מִנְבִּיאֵי יְהוָה	יְהוָה	וְאֶחָבָא	מִנְבִּיאֵי יְהוָה	יְהוָה
when Jezebel	H853	prophets	of the LORD	how I hid	prophets	of the LORD
H348		H5030	H3068	H2244	H5030	H3068
מֵאָה	אִישׁ	חֲמִשָּׁה יָם	חֲמִשָּׁה יָם	אִישׁ	בְּמַעֲבֹה	וְאָכַלְכֶּם
an hundred	men	by fifty	by fifty	men	in a cave	and fed
H3967	H376	H2572	H2572	H376	H4631	H3557
לָהֶם	וְמַיִם:					
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: