

1 Kings 18:37

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Hear me, O LORD, hear me, that this people may know that thou art the LORD God, and that thou hast turned their heart back again.

Analysis

Hear me, O LORD, hear me, that this people may know that thou art the LORD God, and that thou hast turned their heart back again.

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 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 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

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

שִׁמְעוּ נִי	יְהוָה ה	שִׁמְעוּ נִי	וְיָדְעוּ	הָעָם	הַזֶּה ה	כִּי
Hear	me O LORD	Hear	may know	me that this people	H2088	H3588
H6030	H3068	H6030	H3045	H5971		
ה	יְהוָה ה	הָאֱלֹהִים י	וְאַתָּה ה	הַסֵּב ת		אֶת
H859	me O LORD	God	H859	and that thou hast turned		H853
	H3068	H430		H5437		
לִבָּם	אֶחָדָנִית:					
their heart	again					
H3820	H322					

Additional Cross-References

1 Kings 18:24 (References God): And call ye on the name of your gods, and I will call on the name of the LORD: and the God that answereth by fire, let him be God. And all the people answered and said, It is well spoken.

From KJV Study • kjevstudy.org