

1 Kings 18:6

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

So they divided the land between them to pass throughout it: Ahab went one way by himself, and Obadiah went another way by himself.

Analysis

So they divided the land between them to pass throughout it: Ahab went one way by himself, and Obadiah went another way by himself.

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

Revelation 20:12 – Judgment according to deeds

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

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

בְּאֵחֶזֶב	וְעָבָדָה	הָוָה	כָּל	רַ	לְבָד	וּ	אַחֲרֵי	בְּדִין	כָּל	רַ	כָּל
it Ahab	went	way	another	H905		by himself and Obadiah			went		
H256	H1980	H1870	H259						H5662		H1980

לבדך אַתָּה בְּדָךְ way another H905
H1870 H259

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