

1 Kings 2:12

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then sat Solomon upon the throne of David his father; and his kingdom was established greatly.

Analysis

Then sat Solomon upon the throne of David his father; and his kingdom was established greatly.

This verse contributes to the broader narrative of David's death and Solomon's consolidation of power, within the book's focus on succession narrative and establishment of Solomon's reign.

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. This passage describes events around 970 BCE during the transition from David to Solomon.

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 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. How does this passage illustrate the importance of clear succession planning and communication in leadership transitions?
2. What does Solomon's consolidation of power reveal about the relationship between justice, mercy, and political necessity?
3. How does this verse point toward or prepare for the coming of Christ and His eternal kingdom?

Interlinear Text

וְשֹׁלֹמֹה ה	יָשָׁב	עַל	כִּסֵּא	דָּוִד	אָבִיו	וְנִתְּכָה
Solomon	Then sat	H5921	upon the throne	of David	his father	was established
H8010	H3427		H3678	H1732	H1	H3559
וּמַלְכוּתוֹ	גָּדוֹל:					
and his kingdom	greatly					
H4438	H3966					

Additional Cross-References

2 Chronicles 1:1 (Kingdom): And Solomon the son of David was strengthened in his kingdom, and the LORD his God was with him, and magnified him exceedingly.