

1 Kings 2:16

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And now I ask one petition of thee, deny me not. And she said unto him, Say on.

Analysis

And now I ask one petition of thee, deny me not. And she said unto him, Say on.

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

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

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

אַל	מְאַת	נָ	שָׁא	לָ	אַנְכִּי	אַחֲת	שָׁאַל	הָ	וְעַת	הָ
H6258	petition	H7596	one	H259	H595	And now I ask	H7592	H853	H408	
בְּרִ	אַל	וְ	אַתְּ	אָמַר	וְתִּ	אַתְּ	פָּנָ	יְ	אַתְּ	בְּ
עַבְרִ	unto him		of thee	deny	H853	me	H6440	H559	Say on	

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