

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

1 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

הַ	שְׂאֵלָה	אֶחָד	אֲנֹכִי	שֵׁא ל	מֵאֵתְךָ	אֵל
H6258	petition H7596	one H259	H595	And now I ask H7592	H853	H408
תִּשְׁבַּח	אֶת	פְּנֵי	וְתֵאמַר	אֵלַי	דְּבַר:	
of thee deny H7725	H853	me H6440	not And she said H559	H413	unto him Say on H1696	

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