

1 Kings 2:19

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Bath-sheba therefore went unto king Solomon, to speak unto him for Adonijah. And the king rose up to meet her, and bowed himself unto her, and sat down on his throne, and caused a seat to be set for the king's mother; and she sat on his right hand.

Analysis

Bath-sheba therefore went unto king Solomon, to speak unto him for Adonijah. And the king rose up to meet her, and bowed himself unto her, and sat down on his throne, and caused a seat to be set for the king's mother; and she sat on his right hand.

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

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

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

ל וְלִדְבַּר שְׁלֹמֹה בַּעַת יְתַבֵּא
therefore went H0 Bathsheba H413 And the king H4428 Solomon H8010 to speak H0
H935 H1339 H4428 H8010 H1696
עַל אֶדְנִי הָוּ לִקְרָאת הַמֶּלֶךְ לְשָׁמֶן
unto him for Adonijah rose up And the king to meet her and bowed
H5921 H138 H6965 H4428 H7125 H7812
עַל וַתִּשְׁבַּב לְכָסָא וַיִּשְׁמַע וַיִּכְסַא לְאִם
and she sat H5921 and caused a seat to be set and caused a seat mother
H3427 H3678 H7760 H3678 H517
לִימִינְךָ וַתִּשְׁבַּב בַּמֶּלֶךְ
And the king and she sat on his right hand
H4428 H3427 H3225

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 45:9 (Kingdom): Kings' daughters were among thy honourable women: upon thy right hand did stand the queen in gold of Ophir.

From KJV Study • kjvstudy.org