

1 Kings 2:25

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And king Solomon sent by the hand of Benaiah the son of Jehoiada; and he fell upon him that he died.

Analysis

And king Solomon sent by the hand of Benaiah the son of Jehoiada; and he fell upon him that he died.

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

יְהוֹיָדָעַ בֶּן בְּנֵי דָבָר שֶׁלְמָן הַבָּטָה לְגַנְבָּה תִּשְׁלַחַ
of Jehoiada the son of Benaiah by the hand of Solomon And king sent

sent

And king

Solomon

by the hand

of Benaiah

the son

of Jehoiada

H7971

H4428

H8010

H3027

H1141

H1121

H3077

וַיַּפְגַּע בְּנֵי יְהוֹיָדָעַ

and he fell

H0

upon him that he died

H6293

H4191

Additional Cross-References

2 Samuel 8:18 (Parallel theme): And Benaiah the son of Jehoiada was over both the Cherethites and the Pelethites; and David's sons were chief rulers.