

1 Kings 2:29

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And it was told king Solomon that Joab was fled unto the tabernacle of the LORD; and, behold, he is by the altar. Then Solomon sent Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, saying, Go, fall upon him.

Analysis

And it was told king Solomon that Joab was fled unto the tabernacle of the LORD; and, behold, he is by the altar. Then Solomon sent Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, saying, Go, fall upon him.

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 sacrificial system points forward to Christ's ultimate sacrifice, fulfilling all temple offerings (Hebrews 10:1-18).

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

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

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

אָל יָאָב בְּנֵי סְלֵמָה לְפָנֵי לְבָנָה
And it was told king Solomon was fled that Joab
H5046 H4428 H8010 H3588 H5127 H3097 H413

בְּמִזְבֵּחַ אֵל יְהוָה הַיְהוָה אֶל
unto the tabernacle of the LORD and behold he is by the altar
H168 H3068 H2009 H681 H4196

לְבָנֵי יְהוֹיָדָעַ לְאָמֵר אֶת שְׁלֹמֹה וְשָׁלַח
sent Solomon H853 Benaiah the son of Jehoiada saying
H7971 H8010 H1141 H1121 H3077 H559 H1980

בָּנָה פָּגָע
fall H0
H6293

Additional Cross-References

1 Kings 2:25 (Kingdom): And king Solomon sent by the hand of Benaiah the son of Jehoiada; and he fell upon him that he died.

Exodus 21:14 (Sacrifice): But if a man come presumptuously upon his neighbour, to slay him with guile; thou shalt take him from mine altar, that he may die.