

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

וַיִּדְבָּר	לְמֶלֶךְ	שְׁלֹמֹה	כִּי	נָס	יֹאבָב	אֶל
And it was told	king	Solomon	H3588	was fled	that Joab	H413
H5046	H4428	H8010		H5127	H3097	
אֶל הַמִּזְבֵּיחַ	יְהוָה	וְהִנֵּה	אֵל	צֵל	הַמִּזְבֵּיחַ	
unto the tabernacle	of the LORD	H2009	and behold he is by		the altar	
H168	H3068		H681		H4196	
וַיִּשְׁלַח	שְׁלֹמֹה	אֶת	בְּנֵי הוּ	בֶן	יְהוֹיָדָע	לֵאמֹר
sent	Solomon	H853	Benaiah	the son	of Jehoiada	saying
H7971	H8010		H1141	H1121	H3077	H559
וַיִּפֹּל	עָלָיו	וַיָּמָוֶת				
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.