

1 Kings 2:30

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Benaiah came to the tabernacle of the LORD, and said unto him, Thus saith the king, Come forth. And he said, Nay; but I will die here. And Benaiah brought the king word again, saying, Thus said Joab, and thus he answered me.

Analysis

And Benaiah came to the tabernacle of the LORD, and said unto him, Thus saith the king, Come forth. And he said, Nay; but I will die here. And Benaiah brought the king word again, saying, Thus said Joab, and thus he answered me.

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

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

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

וַיָּבֹא	בְּנֵי־הוּ	אֶל	אֶל־הַ	יְהוָה	וַיֹּאמֶר	אֵלֵי
came	And Benaiah	H413	to the tabernacle	of the LORD	And he said	H413
H935	H1141		H168	H3068	H559	
כֹּה	וַיֹּאמֶר	הַמֶּלֶךְ	צֵא	וַיֹּאמֶר	לֵא	כִּי
H3541	And he said	the king	Come forth	And he said	H3808	H3588
	H559	H4428	H3318	H559		H6311
אָמַרְתִּי	וַיָּשָׁב	בְּנֵי־הוּ	אֶת־	הַמֶּלֶךְ	דְּבַר	וַיֹּאמֶר
Nay but I will die	again	And Benaiah	H853	the king	word	And he said
H4191	H7725	H1141		H4428	H1697	H559
כֹּה	דְּבַר	יֹאָב	וְכֵן	עָנָה:		
H3541	Thus said	Joab	H3541	and thus he answered		
	H1696	H3097		H6030		

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