

# 1 Kings 2:36

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the king sent and called for Shimei, and said unto him,  
Build thee an house in Jerusalem, and dwell there, and go not  
forth thence any whither.

## Analysis

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**And the king sent and called for Shimei, and said unto him, Build thee an house in Jerusalem, and dwell there, and go not forth thence any whither.**

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 temple represents God's dwelling among His people and foreshadows Christ as Immanuel ('God with us').

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

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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

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**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

**James 2:17** — Faith and works

**Genesis 1:1** — Creation of heavens and earth

**Psalms 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

## Study Questions

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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

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וְשָׁלַח	הֶמֶל לֶךְ	וַיִּקְרָא	לְשִׁמְעַי	וַיֹּאמֶר	לֹא	בִנֵּה
sent	And the king	and called	for Shimei	and said	H0	unto him Build
H7971	H4428	H7121	H8096	H559		H1129
לֶךְ	בֵּית	בֵּיר וְשָׁלַם	וַיֵּשְׁבֶתָ	שָׁם	וְלֹא	
H0	thee an house	in Jerusalem	and dwell	H8033	H3808	
	H1004	H3389	H3427			
תֵּצֵא	מִשָּׁם	וְאַנְה:	וְאַנְה:			
there and go not forth	H8033	thence any whither	thence any whither			
H3318		H575	H575			

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