

1 Kings 21:1

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And it came to pass after these things, that Naboth the Jezreelite had a vineyard, which was in Jezreel, hard by the palace of Ahab king of Samaria.

Analysis

And it came to pass after these things, that Naboth the Jezreelite had a vineyard, which was in Jezreel, hard by the palace of Ahab king of Samaria.

This verse contributes to the broader narrative of Naboth's vineyard, within the book's focus on prophetic ministry of Elijah confronting Baalism.

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. Elijah's ministry (c. 860-850 BCE) occurred during Ahab's reign, a time of intense spiritual crisis in Israel.

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

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. How does this passage illustrate the importance of complete obedience to God's word without compromise?
2. What does Elijah's ministry reveal about God's character and His commitment to His covenant people?
3. How does this verse point toward or prepare for the coming of Christ and His eternal kingdom?

Interlinear Text

וַיְהִי י	אַחֵר	הַדְּבָרִים	הָאֵלֵּה	כִּי	הָיָה
H1961	And it came to pass after	these things	H428	had a vineyard	H1961
	H310	H1697		H3754	
לְנָבוֹת	הַיִּזְרְעֵלִי	אֲשֶׁר	בְּיִזְרְעֵל	אֶצֶל	הַיָּכָל
that Naboth	the Jezreelite	H834	which was in Jezreel	hard by	the palace
H5022	H3158		H3157	H681	H1964
בְּאַחָז	מֶלֶךְ	שָׁמָרָה			
of Ahab	king	of Samaria			
H256	H4428	H8111			

Additional Cross-References

2 Chronicles 28:22 (Kingdom): And in the time of his distress did he trespass yet more against the LORD: this is that king Ahaz.

Judges 6:33 (Parallel theme): Then all the Midianites and the Amalekites and the children of the east were gathered together, and went over, and pitched in the valley of Jezreel.

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