

1 Kings 21:15

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And it came to pass, when Jezebel heard that Naboth was stoned, and was dead, that Jezebel said to Ahab, Arise, take possession of the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite, which he refused to give thee for money: for Naboth is not alive, but dead.

Analysis

And it came to pass, when Jezebel heard that Naboth was stoned, and was dead, that Jezebel said to Ahab, Arise, take possession of the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite, which he refused to give thee for money: for Naboth is not alive, but dead.

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

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

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

כְּשֶׁמָעַ וַיְהִי ^{H1961} **heard** ^{H8085} אֵינֶן בָּל ^{H348} **And it came to pass when Jezebel** ^{H3588} סָקָל ל ^{H5619} **was stoned** נָבֹת ^{H5022} **for Naboth**

מָתָּה: ^{H4191} **and was dead** וַתֹּאמֶר ^{H559} **said** אֵינֶן בָּל ^{H348} **And it came to pass when Jezebel** ^{H413} אֶחָד ב ^{H256} **to Ahab** קוּם ^{H6965} **Arise**

רָשׁ ^{H3423} **take possession** אֶת ^{H853} כַּרְמִין ^{H3754} **of the vineyard** נָבֹת ^{H5022} **for Naboth** הַזְּרַעֲלִית ^{H3158} **the Jezreelite** אִשָּׁה ^{H834}

מֵאֵן ^{H3985} **which he refused** לָתֵת ^{H5414} **to give** לָךְ ^{H0} בְּכֶסֶף ^{H3701} **thee for money** כִּי ^{H3588} אֵין ^{H369} נָבֹת ^{H5022} **for Naboth**

חַי ^{H2416} **is not alive** כִּי ^{H3588} מָתָּה: ^{H4191} **and was dead**