

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

Psalm 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

כִּי	אֵין	בְּלֹ	כִּי	נִבְ וְתַ	סִקְ לַ	נִבְ וְתַ
H1961	heard	And it came to pass when Jezebel	H3588	was stoned	for Naboth	
H8085		H348		H5619		H5022
וְתַ	אָמַר	וְתַ	אֵין	בְּלֹ	וְתַ	אָמַר
and was dead	said	And it came to pass when Jezebel	H348	to Ahab	Arise	
H4191	H559			H256		H6965
אֲשֶׁר	בָּיְרְעָלִ	נִבְ וְתַ	כִּי	נִבְ וְתַ	בָּיְרְעָלִ	אֲשֶׁר
take possession	H853	of the vineyard	H5022	the Jezreelite	H834	
H3423		H3754		H3158		
לְבַ	לְתַתָּ	מִן	לְבַ	לְבַ	אֵין	נִבְ וְתַ
which he refused	to give	H0	thee for money	H3588	H369	for Naboth
H3985	H5414		H3701			H5022
מַ	מַ	מַ	מַ	מַ	מַ	מַ
is not alive	H3588	and was dead				
H2416		H4191				

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