

1 Kings 21:26

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And he did very abominably in following idols, according to all things as did the Amorites, whom the LORD cast out before the children of Israel.

Analysis

And he did very abominably in following idols, according to all things as did the Amorites, whom the LORD cast out before the children of Israel.

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

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

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

אָשָׁר כָּלְלִים אֶחָרִים לֹל כָּתָת מֵאָדָם יִתְּחַטֵּב

abominably And he did very

H8581

H3966

H1980

H310

idols

H1544

H3605

H834

עָשָׂה בְּאָמֹרִים הַוֹּר וְשָׁאַשֵּׁר יְהִי הַ

according to all things as did the Amorites cast out whom the LORD

H6213

H567

H834

cast out

whom the LORD

H3423

H3068

ישָׁאָל: בָּנִים מִפְנִים

before the children of Israel

H6440

H1121

H3478

Additional Cross-References

2 Kings 21:11 (Parallel theme): Because Manasseh king of Judah hath done these abominations, and hath done wickedly above all that the Amorites did, which were before him, and hath made Judah also to sin with his idols:

Genesis 15:16 (Parallel theme): But in the fourth generation they shall come hither again: for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet full.

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