

1 Kings 21:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Jezebel his wife said unto him, Dost thou now govern the kingdom of Israel? arise, and eat bread, and let thine heart be merry: I will give thee the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite.

Analysis

And Jezebel his wife said unto him, Dost thou now govern the kingdom of Israel? arise, and eat bread, and let thine heart be merry: I will give thee the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite.

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

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

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

עָתָה הִנֵּה אָשָׁתׁוֹ אֵין בָּל אֵלֹיו וְתִּאמְרָה
said H413 And Jezebel his wife H859 H6258
H559 H348 H802

מְעַשְׁתָּה מֶלֶךְ הָעָלָה יִשְׁרָאֵל אָכְלָה
unto him Dost thou now govern the kingdom H5921 of Israel arise and eat
H6213 H4410 H3478 H6965 H398

לְבָבְךָ וְלִיטְבָּה אָנֹכִי אָתָּה לְבָבְךָ
bread be merry and let thine heart H589 I will give H0 H853
H3899 H3190 H3820

תְּהִי בְּבַת הַגְּזְרָעָלִים
thee the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite
H3754 H5022 H3158

