

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

וַתֹּאמֶר	אֵלָיו	אֵין בָּל	אִשְׁתּוֹ	אֶתְּהָ	עַתָּה
said	H413	And Jezebel	his wife	H859	H6258
H559		H348	H802		
תַּעֲשֶׂה	מְלֹכָה	עַל	יִשְׂרָאֵל	קוּם	אֲכַל
unto him Dost thou now govern	the kingdom	H5921	of Israel	arise	and eat
H6213	H4410		H3478	H6965	H398
לֶחֶם	וְיִטְבּ	לִבְךָ	אֲנִי	אֶתֵּן	אֶתֵּן
bread	be merry	and let thine heart	H589	I will give	H0
H3899	H3190	H3820		H5414	H853
הַזֵּרְעֵלִית	נָבוֹת	כָּרְם			
the Jezreelite	of Naboth	thee the vineyard			
H3158	H5022	H3754			

