

1 Kings 21:8

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

So she wrote letters in Ahab's name, and sealed them with his seal, and sent the letters unto the elders and to the nobles that were in his city, dwelling with Naboth.

Analysis

So she wrote letters in Ahab's name, and sealed them with his seal, and sent the letters unto the elders and to the nobles that were in his city, dwelling with Naboth.

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

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

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

בְּחִתְמָן וּבְתִמְחָת מִן יְמֵינֵי אַחֲרָיו בְּשֵׁם הַסְּפָר יְמֵינֵי וְתִמְחָת בְּ

So she wrote letters ~ **in Ahab's** them with his seal and sealed
H3789 H5612 H8034 H256 H2368 H2856

אֲשֶׁר בְּחִרְכִּים וְאֶל פְּזִקְנֵי יְמֵינֵי וְאֶל פְּזִקְנֵי יְמֵינֵי וְתִשְׁלַח

and sent letters H413 unto the elders H413 and to the nobles H834
H7971 H5612 H2205 H2715

בָּעֵיר וְאֶת קִישְׁבֵי יְמֵינֵי נְבָזֹת:

that were in his city dwelling H854 **with Naboth** H5022
H5892 H3427

