

# 1 Kings 22:16

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the king said unto him, How many times shall I adjure thee that thou tell me nothing but that which is true in the name of the LORD?

## Analysis

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**And the king said unto him, How many times shall I adjure thee that thou tell me nothing but that which is true in the name of the LORD?**

This verse contributes to the broader narrative of ahab's death and jehoshaphat's alliance, 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

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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

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**Romans 10:9** — Confession and belief for salvation

**John 3:16** — God's love and salvation

**James 2:17** — Faith and works

**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

## Study Questions

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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

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וַיֹּאמֶר	אֵלָיו	הַמֶּלֶךְ	עַד	כַּמָּה	פְּעָמִים	אֲנִי	מִשְׁבִּיעַךְ
<b>And said</b>	<b>to him</b>	<b>the king</b>	<b>How many</b>	<b>times</b>	<b>times</b>	<b>shall I</b>	<b>make you swear</b>
H559	H413	H4428	H5704	H4100	H6471	H589	H7650