

# 1 Kings 22:36

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And there went a proclamation throughout the host about the going down of the sun, saying, Every man to his city, and every man to his own country.

## Analysis

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**And there went a proclamation throughout the host about the going down of the sun, saying, Every man to his city, and every man to his own country.**

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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**1 Corinthians 13:4** — Characteristics of love

**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

**Psalms 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

**Genesis 1:1** — Creation of heavens and earth

## 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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וַיֵּעַבֶר	הַרְנָה	בְּמַחֲנֶה	כְּבֹא	הַשֶּׁמֶשׁ		
And went	a proclamation	throughout the army	about	the going down of the sun		
H5674	H7440	H4264	H935	H8121		
לֵאמֹר	אִישׁ	אֶל	עִירוֹ	וְאִישׁ	אֶל	אֶרְצוֹ
saying	every man	to	his city	and every man	to	his own country
H559	H376	H413	H5892	H376	H413	H776

## Additional Cross-References

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**2 Kings 14:12** (Parallel theme): And Judah was put to the worse before Israel; and they fled every man to their tents.

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