

1 Kings 3:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the speech pleased the Lord, that Solomon had asked this thing.

Analysis

And the speech pleased the Lord, that Solomon had asked this thing.

This verse contributes to the broader narrative of Solomon's wisdom and the famous judgment, within the book's focus on Solomon's wisdom, temple building, and tragic apostasy.

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. Solomon's reign (c. 970-930 BCE) represented Israel's golden age of peace and prosperity.

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

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. How does the temple as God's dwelling place help us understand Christ's incarnation and the church as God's temple today?
2. What does Solomon's prayer and dedication teach about approaching God in worship and prayer?
3. How does this verse point toward or prepare for the coming of Christ and His eternal kingdom?

Interlinear Text

וִיטָב	הַדָּבָר	בְּעֵינַי	אֲדֹנָי	כִּי	שָׁאַל	שְׁלֹמֹה	אֵת
pleased	And the speech		the Lord		had asked	that Solomon	
H3190	H1697	H5869	H136	H3588	H7592	H8010	H853

הַדָּבָר	הַזֶּה:
And the speech	
H1697	H2088

Additional Cross-References

Proverbs 15:8 (References Lord): The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination to the LORD: but the prayer of the upright is his delight.