

1 Kings 3:13

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And I have also given thee that which thou hast not asked, both riches, and honour: so that there shall not be any among the kings like unto thee all thy days.

Analysis

And I have also given thee that which thou hast not asked, both riches, and honour: so that there shall not be any among the kings like unto thee all thy days.

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

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

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

נָתַן פָּנִים לְאָשָׁר רִיגְמָן
H1571 H834 H3808 thee that which thou hast not asked And I have also given
H7592 H5414

כִּמְדֹבָר בְּנֵי הָרָקָם עַשְׂרֵנָמָן כְּבָב וְדָבָר
H0 H1571 both riches H1571 and honour H834 H3808 H1961 H3644
H6239 H3519

וְלֹא יְהִי בְּמַלְכֵיכֶם אֵין
so that there shall not be any among the kings H3605 like unto thee all thy days
H376 H4428 H3117

Additional Cross-References

Matthew 6:33 (Kingdom): But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

Ephesians 3:20 (Parallel theme): Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us,

Proverbs 3:16 (Parallel theme): Length of days is in her right hand; and in her left hand riches and honour.

Romans 8:32 (Parallel theme): He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?

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