

1 Kings 3:15

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Solomon awoke; and, behold, it was a dream. And he came to Jerusalem, and stood before the ark of the covenant of the LORD, and offered up burnt offerings, and offered peace offerings, and made a feast to all his servants.

Analysis

And Solomon awoke; and, behold, it was a dream. And he came to Jerusalem, and stood before the ark of the covenant of the LORD, and offered up burnt offerings, and offered peace offerings, and made a feast to all his servants.

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. God's covenant faithfulness remains steadfast despite human unfaithfulness, ultimately fulfilled in the new covenant through Christ.

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

וַיַּבְאֶר אֶת זֶה שֶׁלֹּם הָיָה
and behold it was a dream
And he came

וְאֵיתָנָה וְאֵיתָנָה
awoke And Solomon
H3364 H8010 H2009

וְאֵיתָנָה וְאֵיתָנָה
and behold it was a dream
H2472 H935

אָדָן בְּרִית אֶת זֶה לְפָנֶיךָ יְהוָה יְהוָה יְהוָה
of the covenant before the ark and stood to Jerusalem
H136 H727 H1285 H6440 H5975 H3389

מִשְׁמָרָה הָיָה וְאֵיתָנָה וְאֵיתָנָה
a feast and made peace offerings and made burnt offerings and offered up
H4960 H6213 H8002 H6213 H5930 H5927

לְכָל עֲבָדָיו:
to all his servants
H5650 H3605

Additional Cross-References

Genesis 41:7 (Parallel theme): And the seven thin ears devoured the seven rank and full ears. And Pharaoh awoke, and, behold, it was a dream.

1 Kings 8:65 (References Lord): And at that time Solomon held a feast, and all Israel with him, a great congregation, from the entering in of Hamath unto the river of Egypt, before the LORD our God, seven days and seven days, even fourteen days.

Mark 6:21 (Creation): And when a convenient day was come, that Herod on his birthday made a supper to his lords, high captains, and chief estates of Galilee;

Daniel 5:1 (Creation): Belshazzar the king made a great feast to a thousand of his lords, and drank wine before the thousand.

Esther 1:3 (Creation): In the third year of his reign, he made a feast unto all his princes and his servants; the power of Persia and Media, the nobles and princes of the provinces, being before him:

