

1 Kings 4:13

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The son of Geber, in Ramoth-gilead; to him pertained the towns of Jair the son of Manasseh, which are in Gilead; to him also pertained the region of Argob, which is in Bashan, threescore great cities with walls and brasen bars:

Analysis

The son of Geber, in Ramoth-gilead; to him pertained the towns of Jair the son of Manasseh, which are in Gilead; to him also pertained the region of Argob, which is in Bashan, threescore great cities with walls and brasen bars:

This verse contributes to the broader narrative of Solomon's administration and prosperity, 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

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

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

בֶּן	גֶּבֶר	בָּרָם	תְּבָרָם	בְּגִלְעָד	לְזַיְתָּה	מִזְרָח
הוּא	The son of Geber	H1127	H7433	in Ramothgilead	הוּא	to him pertained the towns
הוּא	בֶּן	יָאִיר	בֶּן	אֶשְׁר	בְּגִלְעָד	לְזַיְתָּה
of Jair	the son	of Manasseh	H1121	H4519	H834	in Ramothgilead
H2971					H1568	הוּא
בְּלָא	אֶשְׁר	אֶרְגָּב	בְּבָשָׁן	שְׁשִׁים		
to him also pertained the region	of Argob	H2256	H709	H834	which is in Bashan	threescore
					H1316	H8346
נְחַשְׁתָּה	וּבְרִימָה	חֹמֶם	גָּדָל	וְתַּחַת	עָרִים	
cities	great	with walls	bars	and brasen		
H5892	H1419	H2346	H1280	H5178		

Additional Cross-References

Deuteronomy 3:4 (Parallel theme): And we took all his cities at that time, there was not a city which we took not from them, threescore cities, all the region of Argob, the kingdom of Og in Bashan.

Numbers 32:41 (Parallel theme): And Jair the son of Manasseh went and took the small towns thereof, and called them Havoth-jair.

1 Kings 22:3 (Parallel theme): And the king of Israel said unto his servants, Know ye that Ramoth in Gilead is our's, and we be still, and take it not out of the hand of the king of Syria?