

1 Kings 4:19

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Geber the son of Uri was in the country of Gilead, in the country of Sihon king of the Amorites, and of Og king of Bashan; and he was the only officer which was in the land.

Analysis

Geber the son of Uri was in the country of Gilead, in the country of Sihon king of the Amorites, and of Og king of Bashan; and he was the only officer which was in the land.

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

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

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

גִּבְרָה	בֶּן	אֲרִי	בְּאֶרֶץ:	גִּלְעָד	בְּאֶרֶץ:	סִיחֹן וְהָאֵל
Geber	the son	of Uri	in the country	of Gilead	in the country	of Sihon
H1398	H1121	H221	H776	H1568	H776	H5511
מֶלֶךְ	הָאֲמֹרִי	וְעַג	מֶלֶךְ	הַבָּשָׁן	וְנָצִיב	
king	of the Amorites	and of Og	king	of Bashan	officer	
H4428	H567	H5747	H4428	H1316	H5333	
אֵלֶּה	אֲשֶׁר	בְּאֶרֶץ:				
and he was the only		in the country				
H259	H834	H776				
