

1 Kings 4:24

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For he had dominion over all the region on this side the river, from Tiphseh even to Azzah, over all the kings on this side the river: and he had peace on all sides round about him.

Analysis

For he had dominion over all the region on this side the river, from Tiphseh even to Azzah, over all the kings on this side the river: and he had peace on all sides round about him.

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

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

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

כִּי	הָיָא	רָדָהּ	בְּכָל	עַבְרָהּ	הַנָּהָר	מִתִּפְסַח
H3588	H1931	For he had dominion	H3605	on this side	the river	from Tiphseh
		H7287		H5676	H5104	H8607
וְעַד	עַזָּה	בְּכָל	מַלְכֵי	עַבְרָהּ	הַנָּהָר	
H5704	even to Azzah	H3605	over all the kings	on this side	the river	
	H5804		H4428	H5676	H5104	
וְשָׁלֹוֹם	לָהּ	לְכָל	עַבְרָהּ	מִסְבִּיב:		
and he had peace	H1961	H0	H3605	on this side	round about	
H7965				H5676	H5439	

Additional Cross-References

1 Chronicles 22:9 (Peace): Behold, a son shall be born to thee, who shall be a man of rest; and I will give him rest from all his enemies round about: for his name shall be Solomon, and I will give peace and quietness unto Israel in his days.

Psalms 72:11 (Kingdom): Yea, all kings shall fall down before him: all nations shall serve him.

Genesis 10:19 (Parallel theme): And the border of the Canaanites was from Sidon, as thou comest to Gerar, unto Gaza; as thou goest, unto Sodom, and Gomorrah, and Admah, and Zeboim, even unto Lasha.