

1 Kings 4:3

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Elihoreph and Ahiah, the sons of Shisha, scribes; Jehoshaphat the son of Ahilud, the recorder.

Analysis

Elihoreph and Ahiah, the sons of Shisha, scribes; Jehoshaphat the son of Ahilud, the recorder.

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

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

אֱלִיחֶרֶף	וְאַחִיָּה	בֶּן	שִׁישַׁי	סֹפְרֵי	יְהוֹשָׁפָט	בֶּן
Elihoreph	and Ahiah	the son	of Shisha	scribes	Jehoshaphat	the son
H456	H281	H1121	H7894	H5608	H3092	H1121

אֶחֱלִי	הַמְזַכֵּר:
of Ahilud	the recorder
H286	H2142

Additional Cross-References

2 Samuel 8:16 (Parallel theme): And Joab the son of Zeruiah was over the host; and Jehoshaphat the son of Ahilud was recorder;