

1 Kings 5:14

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And he sent them to Lebanon, ten thousand a month by courses: a month they were in Lebanon, and two months at home: and Adoniram was over the levy.

Analysis

And he sent them to Lebanon, ten thousand a month by courses: a month they were in Lebanon, and two months at home: and Adoniram was over the levy.

This verse contributes to the broader narrative of preparations for building the temple, 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

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by 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

סְלִיפָה וְתַחַדְשָׁ יִם אֶלְף יִם עָשָׂ רָת בְּלִבְנָן וְנִשְׁלַחַ מ
And he sent them to Lebanon ten thousand a month by courses
H7971 H3844 H6235 H505 H2320 H2487

וְאַדְנִירָם בְּבֵית וְחַדְשָׁ יִם שְׁנָה יִם בְּלִבְנָן וְיַהְיָה וְחַדְשָׁ יִם
a month H1961 them to Lebanon and two a month at home and Adoniram
H2320 H3844 H8147 H2320 H1004 H141

עַל בְּמַסָּה
H5921 was over the levy
H4522