

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

וַיִּשְׁלַח הֵם	בְּלִבָּנֹן וְ	עֶשְׂרֵת	אֲלָפֵי יָם	חֹדֶשׁ יָם	בְּכֹסֶפֶת
And he sent	them to Lebanon	ten	thousand	a month	by courses
H7971	H3844	H6235	H505	H2320	H2487
וְחֹדֶשׁ יָם	וְיָהִי וְ	בְּלִבָּנֹן וְ	שְׁנֵי יָם	חֹדֶשׁ יָם	בְּבֵית וְ
a month	H1961	them to Lebanon	and two	a month	at home
H2320		H3844	H8147	H2320	H1004
וְאֲדֹנִירָם					
					and Adoniram
					H141
עַל	הַמָּס:				
H5921	was over the levy				
	H4522				