

1 Kings 5:4

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But now the LORD my God hath given me rest on every side,
so that there is neither adversary nor evil occurrent.

Analysis

But now the LORD my God hath given me rest on every side, so that there is neither adversary nor evil occurrent.

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

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

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

מִסְבֵּב יְבָרֵךְ אֱלֹהִים יְהִי הַנִּזְמָן הַנִּזְמָן
H6258 hath given me rest H5117 But now the LORD H3068 my God H0 on every side
H430 H5439

בְּאֵין שְׁטַח אֵין גָּעֵב כְּאֵין כְּעֵב
H369 so that there is neither adversary H7854 H369 occurrent H6294 H7451 nor evil

Additional Cross-References

1 Chronicles 22:9 (Parallel theme): 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.

1 Kings 4:24 (Parallel theme): For he had dominion over all the region on this side the river, from Tiphsah even to Azzah, over all the kings on this side the river: and he had peace on all sides round about him.

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