

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

Psalms 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

וַעֲתָה H6258	הִנֵּנִי יָמָא H5117	וְהִנֵּה ה' H3068	אֱלֹהֵי י H430	לִי H0	מִסָּבִיב H5439
	hath given me rest	But now the LORD	my God		on every side
אֵין H369	שׁוֹטְא H7854	וְאֵין H369	פְּגִיעַ H6294	רָעָא H7451	
	so that there is neither adversary		occurrent	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 Tiphseh 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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