

1 Kings 6:12

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Concerning this house which thou art in building, if thou wilt walk in my statutes, and execute my judgments, and keep all my commandments to walk in them; then will I perform my word with thee, which I spake unto David thy father:

Analysis

Concerning this house which thou art in building, if thou wilt walk in my statutes, and execute my judgments, and keep all my commandments to walk in them; then will I perform my word with thee, which I spake unto David thy father:

This verse contributes to the broader narrative of construction of the temple, within the book's focus on Solomon's wisdom, temple building, and tragic apostasy. The temple represents God's dwelling among His people and foreshadows Christ as Immanuel ('God with us').

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

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

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

הַבַּיִת	הִנֵּה הָאֵשֶׁר	אֵת הַבֵּן	אֲמַר
Concerning this house	H2088	H834	H518
H1004		H859	which thou art in building
		H1129	
כָּל אֵת וְשָׁמַרְתָּ	תַּעֲשֶׂה הַמִּשְׁפָּט יְהוָה	וְאֵת בְּחֻקֵּי	תֵּלֵךְ
H3605	H853	H2708	H1980
and keep	and execute	in my statutes	
H8104	H6213		
	H4941		
אֵת וְהִקְמַתִּי	בָּהֶם לֵלֶךְ כֵּת	מִצְוֹתַי	
H853	H0	H4687	
in them then will I perform		all my commandments	
H6965			
אָבִיבִי:	דָּוִד	אֵל	אֵת רַ
H1	H1732	H413	H834
thy father	unto David	with thee which I spake	my word
		H1696	H1697

Additional Cross-References

1 Chronicles 22:10 (Parallel theme): He shall build an house for my name; and he shall be my son, and I will be his father; and I will establish the throne of his kingdom over Israel for ever.

Colossians 1:23 (Parallel theme): If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and be not moved away from the hope of the gospel, which ye have heard, and which was preached to every creature which is under heaven; whereof I Paul am made a minister;

Psalms 132:12 (Parallel theme): If thy children will keep my covenant and my testimony that I shall teach them, their children shall also sit upon thy throne for evermore.

1 Kings 3:14 (Word): And if thou wilt walk in my ways, to keep my statutes and my commandments, as thy father David did walk, then I will lengthen thy days.