

1 Kings 6:24

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And five cubits was the one wing of the cherub, and five cubits the other wing of the cherub: from the uttermost part of the one wing unto the uttermost part of the other were ten cubits.

Analysis

And five cubits was the one wing of the cherub, and five cubits the other wing of the cherub: from the uttermost part of the one wing unto the uttermost part of the other were ten cubits.

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 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

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

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

וְחֵמֶשׁ שָׁ הָאֶחָד תְּ הַכֶּרֶב וְכַנְפָּיו: אֲמַן וְחֵמֶשׁ שָׁ

And five **cubits** **of the one wing** **of the cherub** **was the one** **And five**
H2568 H520 H3671 H3742 H259 H2568

אֲמַן וְחֵמֶשׁ שָׁ הַשֵּׁנִי יֵת הַכֶּרֶב וְכַנְפָּיו: אֲמַן וְחֵמֶשׁ שָׁ

cubits **of the one wing** **of the cherub** **the other** **were ten** **cubits**
H520 H3671 H3742 H8145 H6235 H520

קֶצֶת וְחֵמֶשׁ שָׁ הַכֶּרֶב וְכַנְפָּיו: אֲמַן וְחֵמֶשׁ שָׁ קֶצֶת וְחֵמֶשׁ שָׁ

from the uttermost part **of the one wing** **from the uttermost part**
H7098 H3671 H5704 H7098

וְכַנְפָּיו:
of the one wing
H3671