

1 Kings 6:31

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And for the entering of the oracle he made doors of olive tree: the lintel and side posts were a fifth part of the wall.

Analysis

And for the entering of the oracle he made doors of olive tree: the lintel and side posts were a fifth part of the wall.

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

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

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

וְאַתָּה תָּחַטֵּפְתָּ בְּדָבָר יְרֵשָׁה הַשְׁעָשָׂה דָּלָת וְתַּעֲשֶׂה עֵץ שְׂמִינִי מִן עֵץ זִלְתָּ וְתַּעֲשֶׂה עֵץ הַרְבֵּי

H853 And for the entering H6607 H1687 H6213 H1817 H6086 H8081

בְּאֵל מִזְזָה וְתַּעֲשֶׂה סְמִינִית: הַלִּנְטוּל וְתַּעֲשֶׂה

the lintel and side posts were a fifth part

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