

1 Kings 6:33

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

So also made he for the door of the temple posts of olive tree, a fourth part of the wall.

Analysis

So also made he for the door of the temple posts of olive tree, a fourth 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 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. Temple

architecture followed patterns common to ancient Near Eastern sanctuaries, but Israel's temple distinctly lacked any image of Yahweh, emphasizing His transcendence. 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

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

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

שָׁמַן עַצי מִזְזֹת וְתַּבְּחִיכָּל לְפָתָח עַשְׁהִיכָּל |
H3651 So also made he for the door of the temple posts tree of olive
H6213 H6607 H1964 H4201 H6086 H8081

רְבָעִית: מִאֵת
H853 a fourth part
H7243

