

1 Kings 6:36

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And he built the inner court with three rows of hewed stone, and a row of cedar beams.

Analysis

And he built the inner court with three rows of hewed stone, and a row of cedar beams.

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

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

וַיִּבֶן	אֶת	הַחֲצֵר	יִת	הַפְּנִימִי	שְׁלֹשׁ	וְ	יִת
And he built		court	the inner	with three	and a row		of hewed stone
H1129	H853	H2691	H6442	H7969	H2905		H1496
וְ	יִת	אֶבְנִים:	כִּבְרֹת	ת			
and a row		beams	of cedar				
H2905		H3773	H730				

Additional Cross-References

1 Kings 7:12 (Parallel theme): And the great court round about was with three rows of hewed stones, and a row of cedar beams, both for the inner court of the house of the LORD, and for the porch of the house.

