

1 Kings 6:8

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The door for the middle chamber was in the right side of the house: and they went up with winding stairs into the middle chamber, and out of the middle into the third.

Analysis

The door for the middle chamber was in the right side of the house: and they went up with winding stairs into the middle chamber, and out of the middle into the third.

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

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

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

פַּתְחַ	הַצֵּלַע	הַתִּיכָה הַ	אֶל	כְּתָרָה	הַבַּיִת
The door	chamber	chamber and out of the middle	H413	side	of the house
H6607	H6763	H8484		H3802	H1004

הַיְמָנִי יֵת	וּבִלְוֵי יָם	וַיֵּצְאוּ	עַל
was in the right	with winding stairs	and they went up	H5921
H3233	H3883	H5927	

הַתִּיכָה הַ	וּמִן	הַתִּיכָה הַ	אֶל
chamber and out of the middle	H4480	chamber and out of the middle	H413
H8484		H8484	

הַשְּׁלִישִׁים:

into the third

H7992