

1 Kings 7:17

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And nets of checker work, and wreaths of chain work, for the chapters which were upon the top of the pillars; seven for the one chapter, and seven for the other chapter.

Analysis

And nets of checker work, and wreaths of chain work, for the chapters which were upon the top of the pillars; seven for the one chapter, and seven for the other chapter.

This verse contributes to the broader narrative of temple furnishings and Solomon's palace, 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

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

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

שָׁרָשָׁר וְזֶה מַעֲשֵׂה הַ שָׁבָכַ הַ מַעֲשֵׂה הַ שָׁבָכַ יָם

And nets

H7638

work

H4639

of checker

H7639

and wreaths

H1434

work

H4639

of chain

H8333

וְשִׁבְעָ הַ הָעַמּוּדִים רֹאשׁ עַל אֲשֶׁר לַכֹּתֶרֶת

chapter

H3805

H834

H5921

which were upon the top

H7218

of the pillars

H5982

and seven

H7651

הַשְּׁנִיָּה: לַכֹּתֶרֶת וְשִׁבְעָ הַ הָאֶחָת לַכֹּתֶרֶת

chapter

H3805

for the one

H259

and seven

H7651

chapter

H3805

for the other

H8145

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