

1 Kings 7:24

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And under the brim of it round about there were knops compassing it, ten in a cubit, compassing the sea round about: the knops were cast in two rows, when it was cast.

Analysis

And under the brim of it round about there were knops compassing it, ten in a cubit, compassing the sea round about: the knops were cast in two rows, when it was cast.

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

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

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

הַפָּקַע יָם	מִתַּחַת	לְשֹׁפֶת וָן	סָבִיב יָם	סָבִיב יָם	אֶת ו		
the knops	H8478	And under the brim	of it round about	compassing	H853		
H6497		H8193	H5439	H5437			
עֶשְׂרִי	בְּאַמָּה	מִקְפֵּי יָם	אֶת	הַיָּם	סָבִיב יָם	שְׁנֵי י	טֹרִיִם
it ten	in a cubit	compassing	H853	the sea	of it round about	in two	rows
H6235	H520	H5362		H3220	H5439	H8147	H2905
הַפָּקַע יָם	יָצָק יָם	בִּיצָקָתוֹ:					
the knops	when it was cast	were cast					
H6497	H3332	H3333					

Additional Cross-References

1 Kings 6:18 (Parallel theme): And the cedar of the house within was carved with knops and open flowers: all was cedar; there was no stone seen.

2 Chronicles 4:3 (Sin): And under it was the similitude of oxen, which did compass it round about: ten in a cubit, compassing the sea round about. Two rows of oxen were cast, when it was cast.

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