

1 Kings 7:29

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And on the borders that were between the ledges were lions, oxen, and cherubims: and upon the ledges there was a base above: and beneath the lions and oxen were certain additions made of thin work.

Analysis

And on the borders that were between the ledges were lions, oxen, and cherubims: and upon the ledges there was a base above: and beneath the lions and oxen were certain additions made of thin work.

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

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

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

וְעַל	H5921	And on the borders	H4526	הַמִּסְגָּר וְתַ	בְּ יַי אָשָׁר	בְּשַׁלְבֵּים	H996	and upon the ledges	H7948
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לְאָרִי וְתַ	וְלְבָקָר	וְכָרוֹב יִם	וְעַל	הַשְׁלֵבָה יִם
and beneath the lions	and oxen	and cherubims	H5921	and upon the ledges

לְבָקָר	וְמִתְּחִת	מִתְּעֵל	לְאַרְיוֹן	וְתָ	הַ	אָ
there was a base	above	H8478	and beneath the lions		and oxen	

וְלֹא	מְעַשֵּׂה	מִזְגָּד:
were certain additions	work	made of thin

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