

1 Kings 7:3

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And it was covered with cedar above upon the beams, that lay on forty five pillars, fifteen in a row.

Analysis

And it was covered with cedar above upon the beams, that lay on forty five pillars, fifteen in a row.

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

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

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

וְסָפָה	בְּאֵרֶז	עַל	עַל	הַצִּלְעוֹת	אֲשֶׁר	עַל
And it was covered	with cedar	above	H5921	upon the beams	H834	H5921
H5603	H730	H4605		H6763		
הָעַמּוּדִים	אֲרָבַע יָם	חֲמִשָּׁה ה	חֲמִשָּׁה ה	עֶשְׂרִים	הַטּוֹר:	
pillars	that lay on forty	five	five	fifteen	in a row	
H5982	H705	H2568	H2568	H6240	H2905	