

1 Kings 7:39

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And he put five bases on the right side of the house, and five on the left side of the house: and he set the sea on the right side of the house eastward over against the south.

Analysis

And he put five bases on the right side of the house, and five on the left side of the house: and he set the sea on the right side of the house eastward over against the south.

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 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

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for 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

הַבְּ יָתְ מִקְּתָּף עַל וּפְנֵם שְׁהַמִּכְּן וֹתְ אֶת נֶתֶן |
And he put bases and five side of the house
H5414 H853 H4350 H2568 H5921 H3802 H1004

גַּיְם וְאֶת מִשְׁמָאֵל וְהַבְּ יָתְ מִקְּתָּף עַל וּפְנֵם שְׁמַמְּנָה יִ |
on the right and five side of the house on the left the sea
H3225 H2568 H5921 H3802 H1004 H853 H8040 H3220

נֶתֶן | מִקְּתָּף בִּימְנֵי יָתְהַבְּ בְּקַדְמָה מִמְּלֵאָה
And he put side of the house on the right eastward over against
H5414 H3802 H1004 H3233 H6924 H4136

תַּבְּ
the south
H5045

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