

1 Kings 7:49

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the candlesticks of pure gold, five on the right side, and five on the left, before the oracle, with the flowers, and the lamps, and the tongs of gold,

Analysis

And the candlesticks of pure gold, five on the right side, and five on the left, before the oracle, with the flowers, and the lamps, and the tongs of gold,

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 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

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

וְאֵת	הַ מְנֹרֹת	חֲמִשָּׁה	מִיְמֵי יָמִין	חֲמִשָּׁה	מִשְׁמֵל אֹלָם
H853	And the candlesticks	five	on the right	five	on the left
	H4501	H2568	H3225	H2568	H8040

לִפְנֵי	הָאֹרָה	זָהָב:	סָגֹר	וְהָפָּחִים	וְהַנֵּרִים
before	the oracle	gold	of pure	with the flowers	and the lamps
H6440	H1687	H2091	H5462	H6525	H5216

וְהַמִּלְקָחִים	זָהָב:
and the tongs	gold
H4457	H2091

Additional Cross-References

2 Chronicles 4:7 (Parallel theme): And he made ten candlesticks of gold according to their form, and set them in the temple, five on the right hand, and five on the left.

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