

1 Kings 7:9

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

All these were of costly stones, according to the measures of hewed stones, sawed with saws, within and without, even from the foundation unto the coping, and so on the outside toward the great court.

Analysis

All these were of costly stones, according to the measures of hewed stones, sawed with saws, within and without, even from the foundation unto the coping, and so on the outside toward the great court.

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

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

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

כָּל־אָבָן יִם אֲלֵה יָקְרָת
All these were of costly according to the measures

H3605

H428

stones

H68

יָקְרָת

H3368

כְּמֻד וְת

H4060

וּמְחֵץ מִבֵּית בְּמִגְבָּה מִגְבָּר וְתִזְעֵית
and so on the outside within with saws sawed of hewed stones

H1496

H1641

H4050

H1004

H2351

עַד הַטְּפִח וְתִזְעֵית וּמְחֵץ
unto the coping and so on the outside even from the foundation

H4527

H5704

unto the coping

and so on the outside

עַד

H2351

H5704

רַבָּתְךָ הַגְּדוֹלָה
toward the great court

H2691

H1419

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