

1 Kings 8:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And it came to pass, when the priests were come out of the holy place, that the cloud filled the house of the LORD,

Analysis

And it came to pass, when the priests were come out of the holy place, that the cloud filled the house of the LORD,

This verse contributes to the broader narrative of dedication of the temple, 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 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

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

וַיָּהִי י' H1961	בָּצִי אֶת H3318	הַכֹּהֲנִים יָמָא H3548	מִן הַקֹּדֶשׁ H4480
we were come out	And it came to pass when the priests		of the holy
			H6944
וְהָעֶנָּה H6051	מָלֵא אֶת H4390	בֵּית יְהוָה H853	יְהוָה: H1004
place that the cloud	filled	the house	of the LORD
			H3068