

1 Kings 8:19

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Nevertheless thou shalt not build the house; but thy son that shall come forth out of thy loins, he shall build the house unto my name.

Analysis

Nevertheless thou shalt not build the house; but thy son that shall come forth out of thy loins, he shall build the house unto my name.

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

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

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

בְּכִן	אֲמַר	כִּי	יִבְנֶה	לֵאמֹר	אֲבָנֵי הַבַּיִת	וְאֵת הַקִּי
but thy son	H518	H3588	he shall build	H1129	the house	H1004
לְשִׁמִּי	וְאֵת הַבַּיִת	יִבְנֶה	הוּא	מִמֶּלְצֶיךָ	הַיֵּצֵא	אֵת
unto my ~	H8034	H1004	he shall build	H1129	that shall come forth out	H3318
				H2504		

Additional Cross-References

2 Samuel 7:5 (Parallel theme): Go and tell my servant David, Thus saith the LORD, Shalt thou build me an house for me to dwell in?

1 Chronicles 17:4 (Parallel theme): Go and tell David my servant, Thus saith the LORD, Thou shalt not build me an house to dwell in:

1 Chronicles 28:6 (Parallel theme): And he said unto me, Solomon thy son, he shall build my house and my courts: for I have chosen him to be my son, and I will be his father.

From KJV Study • kjevstudy.org