

1 Kings 8:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And all the men of Israel assembled themselves unto king Solomon at the feast in the month Ethanim, which is the seventh month.

Analysis

And all the men of Israel assembled themselves unto king Solomon at the feast in the month Ethanim, which is the seventh month.

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 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

James 2:17 — Faith and works

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

וַיִּקָּהְלוּ	אֶל	הֵמָּה לְ	שְׁלֹמֹה	כָּל	אֲנָשׁ
assembled	H413	themselves unto king	Solomon	H3605	And all the men
H6950		H4428	H8010		H376
לְיִשְׂרָאֵל	בַּיָּחֹדֶשׁ	הָאֶתָנִים	בְּחַג	הַזֶּה	הַחֹדֶשׁ
of Israel	in the month	Ethanim	at the feast	H1931	month
H3478	H3391	H388	H2282		H2320
הַשְּׁבִיעִי:					
which is the seventh					
H7637					

Additional Cross-References

Leviticus 23:34 (References Israel): Speak unto the children of Israel, saying, The fifteenth day of this seventh month shall be the feast of tabernacles for seven days unto the LORD.

From KJV Study • kjevstudy.org