

1 Kings 8:26

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And now, O God of Israel, let thy word, I pray thee, be verified, which thou spakest unto thy servant David my father.

Analysis

And now, O God of Israel, let thy word, I pray thee, be verified, which thou spakest unto thy servant David my father.

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

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

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

וְעַתָּה ה	אֵלֵהּ י	יִשְׂרָאֵל ל	יְאֹמֶן	נָא	דְּבַר רִיבְךָ
H6258	And now O God	of Israel	I pray thee be verified	H4994	let thy word
	H430	H3478	H539		H1697
אֲשֶׁר	דְּבַר רִבְךָ	לְעַבְדְּךָ	דָּוִד	אָבִי:	
H834	which thou spakest	unto thy servant	David	my father	
	H1696	H5650	H1732	H1	

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 45:3 (References God): And I will give thee the treasures of darkness, and hidden riches of secret places, that thou mayest know that I, the LORD, which call thee by thy name, am the God of Israel.

Isaiah 41:17 (References God): When the poor and needy seek water, and there is none, and their tongue faileth for thirst, I the LORD will hear them, I the God of Israel will not forsake them.

Psalms 41:13 (References God): Blessed be the LORD God of Israel from everlasting, and to everlasting. Amen, and Amen.

Psalms 119:49 (Word): Remember the word unto thy servant, upon which thou hast caused me to hope.

Jeremiah 11:5 (Parallel theme): That I may perform the oath which I have sworn unto your fathers, to give them a land flowing with milk and honey, as it is this day. Then answered I, and said, So be it, O LORD.

Exodus 24:10 (References God): And they saw the God of Israel: and there was under his feet as it were a paved work of a sapphire stone, and as it were the body of heaven in his clearness.

1 Kings 8:23 (References God): And he said, LORD God of Israel, there is no God like thee, in heaven above, or on earth beneath, who keepest covenant and mercy with thy servants that walk before thee with all their heart:

2 Chronicles 1:9 (References God): Now, O LORD God, let thy promise unto David my father be established: for thou hast made me king over a people like the dust of the earth in multitude.

1 Samuel 1:17 (References God): Then Eli answered and said, Go in peace: and the God of Israel grant thee thy petition that thou hast asked of him.