

# 1 Kings 8:41

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Moreover concerning a stranger, that is not of thy people Israel, but cometh out of a far country for thy name's sake;

## Analysis

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**Moreover concerning a stranger, that is not of thy people Israel, but cometh out of a far country for thy name's sake;**

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

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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

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**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

## Study Questions

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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

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וְגַם אֲלֹהִים הַנִּכְרֵת רְאֵשׁ לֹא אֲשֶׁר מַעֲמִיק  
H1571 H413 Moreover concerning a stranger H5237 H834 H3808 that is not of thy people H5971

לֹא יְשַׁבֵּא לְמַעַן רְחוּקָה מִאֵצֶז בְּאַתְּ שָׁמְבָן  
Israel H1931 but cometh out H935 country H776 of a far H7350 for H4616 thy ~'s H8034

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