

1 Kings 8:56

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Blessed be the LORD, that hath given rest unto his people Israel, according to all that he promised: there hath not failed one word of all his good promise, which he promised by the hand of Moses his servant.

Analysis

Blessed be the LORD, that hath given rest unto his people Israel, according to all that he promised: there hath not failed one word of all his good promise, which he promised by the hand of Moses his servant.

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

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

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

בָּרַךְ יְהוָה אֲשֶׁר נָתַן מְנוּחָה לְעַמּוֹ
Blessed be the LORD H1288 H3068 H834 **that hath given** H5414 **rest** H4496 **unto his people** H5971

לְיִשְׂרָאֵל אֲשֶׁר כָּכָל לְדִבְרֵי
Israel H3478 H3605 H834 **according to all that he promised** H1696 H3808

אֲשֶׁר הָטוּב דְּבָר וּמְכַל אֶחָד דְּבָר וְנֹפֶל
there hath not failed H5307 **promise** H1697 **one** H259 H3605 **promise** H1697 **of all his good** H2896 H834

עַבְדּוֹ: מֹשֶׁה בְּיַד אֲשֶׁר
according to all that he promised H1696 **by the hand** H3027 **of Moses** H4872 **his servant** H5650

Additional Cross-References

Luke 21:33 (Word): Heaven and earth shall pass away: but my words shall not pass away.

1 Samuel 3:19 (Word): And Samuel grew, and the LORD was with him, and did let none of his words fall to the ground.

Deuteronomy 12:10 (References Lord): But when ye go over Jordan, and dwell in the land which the LORD your God giveth you to inherit, and when he giveth you rest from all your enemies round about, so that ye dwell in safety;

Deuteronomy 3:20 (References Lord): Until the LORD have given rest unto your brethren, as well as unto you, and until they also possess the land which the LORD your God hath given them beyond Jordan: and then shall ye return every man unto his possession, which I have given you.

2 Kings 10:10 (Word): Know now that there shall fall unto the earth nothing of the word of the LORD, which the LORD spake concerning the house of Ahab: for the LORD hath done that which he spake by his servant Elijah.

2 Chronicles 14:6 (References Lord): And he built fenced cities in Judah: for the land had rest, and he had no war in those years; because the LORD had given him rest.

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