

1 Kings 9:1

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And it came to pass, when Solomon had finished the building of the house of the LORD, and the king's house, and all Solomon's desire which he was pleased to do,

Analysis

And it came to pass, when Solomon had finished the building of the house of the LORD, and the king's house, and all Solomon's desire which he was pleased to do,

This verse contributes to the broader narrative of God's covenant with Solomon and his building projects, 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

Hebrews 11:1 – Definition of faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Study Questions

1. How did Solomon's disobedience to God's clear commands lead to his downfall, and what warnings does this provide?
2. What role do relationships and alliances play in either strengthening or compromising our faith?
3. How does this verse point toward or prepare for the coming of Christ and His eternal kingdom?

Interlinear Text

שְׁלָמָה הַכָּל וְתַּתְּבִּין אֶת לְבָנֶךָ וְתַּתְּבִּין אֶת

| | | | | | | | |
|-------------|---------|-------------|----------------|-------------|-------|--------|--------|
| הַיְהָוֶה | יְהֹוָה | בְּיַתְּרָה | בְּלֹה | בְּתַתְּרָה | כָּל | כָּל | שָׁקֵד |
| of the LORD | H853 | house | and the king's | H853 | H3605 | desire | |
| H3068 | | H1004 | H4428 | | H2837 | | |

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|--------|----------------------|------------|
| שָׁלֵם הָ | אֲשֶׁר | צְפָנָה | לְעָשׂוֹת: |
| And it came to pass when Solomon | H834 | which he was pleased | to do |

Additional Cross-References

1 Kings 9:19 (Parallel theme): And all the cities of store that Solomon had, and cities for his chariots, and cities for his horsemen, and that which Solomon desired to build in Jerusalem, and in Lebanon, and in all the land of his dominion.

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