

1 Kings 9:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And it came to pass at the end of twenty years, when Solomon had built the two houses, the house of the LORD, and the king's house,

Analysis

And it came to pass at the end of twenty years, when Solomon had built the two houses, the house of the LORD, and the king's house,

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

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

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

וַיְהִי י'	מִקְצֵה	עֶשְׂרִים	שָׁנָה	אֲשֶׁר	בָּנָה	
H1961	And it came to pass at the end	of twenty	years	H834	had built	
	H7097	H6242	H8141		H1129	
שְׁלֹמֹה	אֶת	שְׁנֵי	בֵּית	אֶת	בֵּית	יְהוָה
when Solomon	H853	the two	house	H853	house	of the LORD
H8010		H8147	H1004	H1004		H3068
הַמֶּלֶךְ:						
and the king's						
H4428						

Additional Cross-References

1 Kings 9:1 (Kingdom): 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,