

1 Kings 9:11

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

(Now Hiram the king of Tyre had furnished Solomon with cedar trees and fir trees, and with gold, according to all his desire,) that then king Solomon gave Hiram twenty cities in the land of Galilee.

Analysis

(Now Hiram the king of Tyre had furnished Solomon with cedar trees and fir trees, and with gold, according to all his desire,) that then king Solomon gave Hiram twenty cities in the land of Galilee.

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 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

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

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

וְבַעַץ	וְ	שְׁלָמָם	ה	אַת	נִשְׁאָר	כִּרְכִּרְמָם	לְחַיְּמָם
Now Hiram	king	of Tyre	had furnished	H853	Solomon	trees	
H2438	H4428	H6865	H5375		H8010	H6086	
with cedar	trees	and fir	and with gold	H3605	according to all his desire		
H730	H6086	H1265	H2091		H2656		
אֵז	וְ	שְׁלָמָם	ה	כִּרְכִּרְמָם	לְחַיְּמָם	עַשְׂרֵה	יְרָאָה
that then	gave	king	Solomon	Now Hiram	twenty	cities	in the land
H227	H5414	H4428	H8010	H2438	H6242	H5892	H776

הַגָּלִיל:
of Galilee
H1551

Additional Cross-References

2 Chronicles 8:2 (Parallel theme): That the cities which Huram had restored to Solomon, Solomon built them, and caused the children of Israel to dwell there.

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