

# 1 Kings 9:13

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And he said, What cities are these which thou hast given me, my brother? And he called them the land of Cabul unto this day.

## Analysis

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**And he said, What cities are these which thou hast given me, my brother?  
And he called them the land of Cabul unto this day.**

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

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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 10:9** — Confession and belief for salvation

**Ephesians 2:8** — Salvation by grace through faith

## Study Questions

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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

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וַיֹּאמֶר	מָה	הָעָרִים	הָאֵלֶּה	אֲשֶׁר	נָתַתָּה
And he said	H4100	What cities	H428	H834	are these which thou hast given
H559		H5892			H5414
לִי	אָחִי	וַיִּקְרָא	לָהֶם	אֶרֶץ	כַּב וּלְ
H0	me my brother	And he called	H0	them the land	of Cabul
	H251	H7121		H776	H3521
הַיּוֹם	הַזֶּה:				
unto this day	H2088				
H3117					

## Additional Cross-References

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**Joshua 19:27** (Parallel theme): And turneth toward the sunrising to Beth-dagon, and reacheth to Zebulun, and to the valley of Jiphthah-el toward the north side of Beth-emek, and Neiel, and goeth out to Cabul on the left hand,

**Amos 1:9** (Parallel theme): Thus saith the LORD; For three transgressions of Tyrus, and for four, I will not turn away the punishment thereof; because they delivered up the whole captivity to Edom, and remembered not the brotherly covenant:

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