

1 Kings 9:16

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For Pharaoh king of Egypt had gone up, and taken Gezer, and burnt it with fire, and slain the Canaanites that dwelt in the city, and given it for a present unto his daughter, Solomon's wife.

Analysis

For Pharaoh king of Egypt had gone up, and taken Gezer, and burnt it with fire, and slain the Canaanites that dwelt in the city, and given it for a present unto his daughter, Solomon's wife.

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

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

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

בָּזֶר אֶת־יְלֵךְ דָּעַל הַמִּצְבָּה מִמְּלָגֵן פְּרֻעַ הַגְּזֵר
For Pharaoh king of Egypt had gone up and taken H853 Gezer
H6547 H4428 H4714 H5927 H3920 H1507

בָּקָר גַּת בָּעֵיר הַיּוֹשֵׁב בְּבָנָיו הַכָּנָאָנִים וְשָׁרַף הַ
and burnt it with fire H853 the Canaanites that dwelt in the city and slain
H8313 H784 H3669 H3427 H5892 H2026

שְׁלָמָה: אִשְׁתָּחַת לְבָתִים שָׁלַח יִם תְּתִנְהַ
and given it for a present unto his daughter wife Solomon's
H5414 H7964 H1323 H802 H8010

Additional Cross-References

1 Kings 3:1 (Kingdom): And Solomon made affinity with Pharaoh king of Egypt, and took Pharaoh's daughter, and brought her into the city of David, until he had made an end of building his own house, and the house of the LORD, and the wall of Jerusalem round about.

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