

# 1 Kings 9:8

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And at this house, which is high, every one that passeth by it shall be astonished, and shall hiss; and they shall say, Why hath the LORD done thus unto this land, and to this house?

## Analysis

**And at this house, which is high, every one that passeth by it shall be astonished, and shall hiss; and they shall say, Why hath the LORD done thus unto this land, and to this 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

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**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

## 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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עָבֵר	כָּל	עַלְיָה	וְיַעֲשֶׂה	בְּזַה	הַיְהִי	וְיַעֲשֶׂה	בְּזַה	וְיַעֲשֶׂה	בְּזַה	וְיַעֲשֶׂה	בְּזַה	וְיַעֲשֶׂה	בְּזַה
And at this house		which is high											
H1004	H2088	H1961	H5945	H3605									H5674
עַל	וְיַשְׁחַק	וְיַבְשֵׂה	וְיַבְשֵׂה	וְיַבְשֵׂה	וְיַבְשֵׂה	וְיַבְשֵׂה	וְיַבְשֵׂה	וְיַבְשֵׂה	וְיַבְשֵׂה	וְיַבְשֵׂה	וְיַבְשֵׂה	וְיַבְשֵׂה	
H5921	by it shall be astonished	and shall hiss	and they shall say										H4100
H8074		H8319											H559
עָשָׂה	וְיַהְיֶה	כִּי	כִּי	לֹא	רֹא	כִּי							
done	Why hath the LORD		H3602	thus unto this land									H2063
H6213		H3068											H776
עָבֵר	בְּזַה												
And at this house													
H1004	H2088												

## Additional Cross-References

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**2 Chronicles 7:21** (References Lord): And this house, which is high, shall be an astonishment to every one that passeth by it; so that he shall say, Why hath the LORD done thus unto this land, and unto this house?

**Jeremiah 22:28** (Parallel theme): Is this man Coniah a despised broken idol? is he a vessel wherein is no pleasure? wherefore are they cast out, he and his seed, and are cast into a land which they know not?

**Jeremiah 19:8** (Parallel theme): And I will make this city desolate, and an hissing; every one that passeth thereby shall be astonished and hiss because of all the plagues thereof.