

1 Chronicles 1:42

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The sons of Ezer; Bilhan, and Zavan, and Jakan. The sons of Dishan; Uz, and Aran.

Analysis

The sons of Ezer; Bilhan, and Zavan, and Jakan—these Horite/Hurrian clans descended from Seir the Edomite (Genesis 36:27). The בֵּלְהָן (Bilhan) and זָאָבָן (Zaavan) families inhabited Edom before Esau's descendants displaced them. The Horites were indigenous cave-dwellers (חִירִים from חִיר, 'hole' or 'cave') in Mount Seir's rugged terrain.

The Chronicler's inclusion of Edomite genealogies serves to establish completeness and acknowledge kinship: Edom descended from Esau, Jacob's twin brother. Though Edom became Israel's bitter enemy (Obadiah), they remained 'brothers,' and Deuteronomy 23:7 forbade abhorring Edomites. This demonstrates God's concern for all peoples while working His purposes through Israel.

Historical Context

The Horites inhabited Seir before Esau's arrival (Deuteronomy 2:12, 22). Archaeological evidence from Edomite sites shows sophisticated iron-working and copper mining operations in the Arabah valley. Edom's eventual destruction by Babylon (c. 553 BC) and Nabatean occupation fulfilled prophetic warnings.

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Study Questions

1. How does God's command not to abhor Edomites despite their hostility challenge your attitude toward those who oppose you?
2. What does the preservation of Horite genealogies teach about God valuing every people group's historical significance?

Interlinear Text

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The sons of Ezer Bilhan and Zavan and Jakan The sons of Dishan Uz
H1121 H687 H1092 H2190 H3292 H1121 H1789 H5780

תַּאֲצִיל:

and Aran

H765

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