

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 בִּלְהָן (Bilhan) and זַאֲוָן (Zaavan) families inhabited Edom before Esau's descendants displaced them. The Horites were indigenous cave-dwellers (חֹרִי from חֹר, '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

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

בְּנֵי י	אֶ עֶזֶר	בִּלְהָן	וְזָוָן	וְיָעֶקֶב	בְּנֵי י	דִּישׁוֹן	עֹז
The sons	of Ezer	Bilhan	and Zavan	and Jakan	The sons	of Dishan	Uz
H1121	H687	H1092	H2190	H3292	H1121	H1789	H5780
וְאַרָּן:							
and Aran							
H765							