

1 Chronicles 11:31

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Ithai the son of Ribai of Gibeah, that pertained to the children of Benjamin, Benaiah the Pirathonite,

Analysis

Ithai the son of Ribai of Gibeah, that pertained to the children of Benjamin

—A Benjaminite fighting for David represents remarkable reconciliation. Benjamin was Saul's tribe, yet Ithai ('with me is God') joined David's forces. His presence among the thirty demonstrates that David's kingdom transcended tribal revenge, welcoming former enemies.

Benaiah the Pirathonite from Ephraim represents another non-Judean warrior in David's elite force. These names document how David's meritocracy united Israel across tribal boundaries. This foreshadows the Church, where former enemies become brothers in Christ (Eph 2:14-16).

Historical Context

The inclusion of Benjaminites in David's army (c. 1000 BC) was politically significant—it showed David bore no grudge against Saul's tribe. This reconciliation helped heal the civil war's wounds and demonstrated David's fitness to rule all Israel, not just Judah.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Study Questions

1. How does Christ's kingdom break down historical enmities and tribal divisions?
2. What former 'enemies' might God be calling you to reconcile with and serve alongside?

Interlinear Text

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|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------|
| אֵיתָיִ | בְּנֵי־ | רִיבֵי־ | מִגְבֵּעַת |
| Ithai | that pertained to the children | of Ribai | of Gibeah |
| H863 | H1121 | H7380 | H1390 |
| בְּנֵי־ | בְּנֵי־ | בְּנֵי־ | הַפִּרְעָתֹנִי: |
| that pertained to the children | of Benjamin | Benaiah | the Pirathonite |
| H1121 | H1144 | H1141 | H6553 |

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