

1 Chronicles 2:18

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Caleb the son of Hezron begat children of Azubah his wife, and of Jerioth: her sons are these; Jeshar, and Shobab, and Ardon.

Analysis

Caleb the son of Hezron begat children of Azubah his wife, and of Jerioth—this Caleb differs from the faithful spy (Numbers 13-14); this is Caleb ben Hezron of Judah's early generations. The Hebrew אֲזוּבָה (Azubah) means 'forsaken,' a poignant name perhaps reflecting circumstances of her birth. יֶרִיעוֹת (Jerioth) means 'tent curtains,' possibly indicating Bedouin connections.

The text's grammar creates interpretive challenges—whether Azubah and Jerioth were co-wives or whether Jerioth identifies Azubah's children. Either way, the complexity reflects real family dynamics. These genealogical details weren't mere antiquarianism but established land claims and inheritance rights for post-exilic returnees reclaiming Judah's territory.

Historical Context

The Chronicler compiled these genealogies from ancient family records, court archives, and Genesis-Samuel materials. For post-exilic Jews, proving Judahite descent meant legitimate claims to ancestral lands. Names like 'forsaken' remind us these records preserved real people's stories, not just data.

Related Passages

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. How does the name 'Azubah' (forsaken) remind you that God includes and redeems those whom society marginalizes?
2. What does the preservation of complex family details teach about God's concern for the particulars of our lives?

Interlinear Text

וְאֶת אִשְׁתּוֹ הַעֲזוּבָה אֶת הוֹלֵי יָדוֹ חֶצְרוֹן בְּנֵי יֵה וְכָל ב
And Caleb **her sons** **of Hezron** **begat** ^{H853} **Azubah** **his wife** **children of**
H3612 H1121 H2696 H3205 H5806 H802 H854

וְאֶרְדּוֹן וְשׁוֹבָב יֵשׁוּר ! אֵלֶּה בְּנֵי יֵה וְאֵלֶּה יֵרִיעַ וְ
and of Jerioth ^{H428} **her sons** **are these Jeshur** **and Shobab** **and Ardon**
H3408 H1121 H3475 H7727 H715