

1 Chronicles 4:19

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the sons of his wife Hodiah the sister of Naham, the father of Keilah the Garmite, and Eshtemoa the Maachathite.

Analysis

And the sons of his wife Hodiah the sister of Naham, the father of Keilah the Garmite—this complex verse navigates familial relationships within Judah. הָדִיאָה (Hodiyah) means 'majesty of Yahweh' or 'praise Yahweh,' while נָחָם (Naham) means 'comfort.' Keilah, a fortified town David later rescued (1 Samuel 23), demonstrates how genealogies preserved both family and territorial connections.

The phrase 'father of Keilah' likely means 'founder' or 'chief,' showing patriarchs established settlements bearing their names or governance. This intertwining of genealogy and geography helped post-exilic returnees reclaim ancestral lands. Every name in these lists represented not just individuals but families, clans, and territorial claims rooted in God's covenant land promises.

Historical Context

Keilah, located in Judah's Shephelah (lowlands), served as a fortified border town against Philistine incursions. David's rescue of Keilah from Philistines (1 Samuel 23:1-13) demonstrated his leadership before becoming king. The town's inhabitants, however, would have betrayed David to Saul, showing political complexity in border regions.

Related Passages

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. How does the connection between genealogy and geography show that God's promises include both people and place?
2. What does it mean that your spiritual inheritance includes both relationship with God's people and place in His kingdom?

Interlinear Text

וּבָנָיו	וְבָנָת	הַזָּקִינָה	אֲשֶׁת	וְאֶחָת	נִסְמָה	אֶבֶן	אֶבֶן	הַקְּרִיאָה	אֶבֶן	אֶבֶן	אֶבֶן
And the sons	of his wife	Hodiah	the sister	of Naham	the father	of Keilah					
H1121	H802	H1940	H269	H5163	H1	H7084					

הַגְּרִימִי	וְאַשְׁתָּמוֹא	הַמְּאַחֲתִיתִי									
the Garmite	**and Eshtemoa**	**the Maachathite**									
H1636	H851	H4602									

Additional Cross-References

Joshua 15:44 (Parallel theme): And Keilah, and Achzib, and Mareshah; nine cities with their villages:

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