

1 Samuel 25:15

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But the men were very good unto us, and we were not hurt, neither missed we any thing, as long as we were conversant with them, when we were in the fields:

Analysis

But the men were very good unto us, and we were not hurt, neither missed we any thing, as long as we were conversant with them, when we were in the fields:

The servant confirms David's claims independently. The Hebrew 'tovim...me'od' (very good) describes David's men's conduct. The parallel to David's message—'we were not hurt, neither missed we any thing'—verifies the protection provided. 'As long as we were conversant with them' (Hebrew 'kol yemei hithallakenu ittam') describes extended daily interaction in the fields. This firsthand testimony from Nabal's own employee establishes David's truthfulness and Nabal's ingratitude. The servant's report to Abigail provides her information needed for wise response. Unlike Nabal's contemptuous dismissal, his servants recognized and appreciated David's protection.

Historical Context

Shepherds in wilderness regions faced genuine dangers from bandits and wild animals. David's band providing protection rather than exploitation was noteworthy. The servant's detailed confirmation suggests the protection was extensive and appreciated by those who experienced it.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. How does the servant's independent confirmation establish the justice of David's request?
2. What does this testimony reveal about how David's men conducted themselves during their wilderness years?

Interlinear Text

בְּכָל	מִנְאָה	וְلֹא	אָנָּשִׁים	בְּכָל	מִנְאָה	וְלֹא	אָנָּשִׁים
But the men	good	H0	were very	H3808	unto us and we were not hurt	H3637	
H582	H2896		H3966				
וְלֹא	מִנְאָה	וְמִתְהָלֵל	כִּי	כִּי	וְמִתְהָלֵל	כִּי	אָפָּה
H3808	neither missed	H3972	H3605	H3117	as long as	we were conversant	H854
	H6485					H1980	
בְּהִיאוֹת	כִּי	בְּשִׁדָּה:					
H1961		with them when we were in the fields	H7704				

Additional Cross-References

1 Samuel 25:7 (Parallel theme): And now I have heard that thou hast shearers: now thy shepherds which were with us, we hurt them not, neither was there ought missing unto them, all the while they were in Carmel.

1 Samuel 25:21 (Good): Now David had said, Surely in vain have I kept all that this fellow hath in the wilderness, so that nothing was missed of all that pertained unto him: and he hath requited me evil for good.

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