

1 Samuel 30:14

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

We made an invasion upon the south of the Cherethites, and upon the coast which belongeth to Judah, and upon the south of Caleb; and we burned Ziklag with fire.

Analysis

The Egyptian's report catalogues the Amalekite raid's extent: the Cherethites (Philistine mercenaries), Judah's territory, and Caleb's portion. The burning of Ziklag is mentioned specifically. This comprehensive raiding indicates a major Amalekite expedition, not a small band. The geographic scope shows they exploited the Philistine army's absence to raid widely. David now understands the full extent of the disaster and the enemy's direction of travel.

Historical Context

The Cherethites were associated with Philistine territory, possibly Cretan in origin. Caleb's inheritance in the Hebron region had been given at the conquest (Joshua 14). The raid's breadth indicates significant Amalekite strength.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Study Questions

1. How does understanding the full scope of a problem help in addressing it?

2. What intelligence gathering precedes effective action against enemies?

Interlinear Text

אֶנֶּה חָנוּ H587	פָּשַׁע טָנוּ H6584	נָ גֵב H5045	הַכְרִית י H3774	וְעַל H5921
	We made an invasion	and upon the south	of the Cherethites	
אֶשׁ ר H834	לִיהוּדָה H3063		וְעַל H5921	נָ גֵב H5045
	and upon the coast which belongeth to Judah		and upon the south	
בָּאֵשׁ: H3612	צִקְלָג H6860	שָׂרְפָנוּ H8313	וְעַל H784	
of Caleb	Ziklag	and we burned	with fire	

Additional Cross-References

Ezekiel 25:16 (Parallel theme): Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I will stretch out mine hand upon the Philistines, and I will cut off the Cherethims, and destroy the remnant of the sea coast.

1 Kings 1:44 (Parallel theme): And the king hath sent with him Zadok the priest, and Nathan the prophet, and Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, and the Cherethites, and the Pelethites, and they have caused him to ride upon the king's mule:

1 Kings 1:38 (Parallel theme): So Zadok the priest, and Nathan the prophet, and Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, and the Cherethites, and the Pelethites, went down, and caused Solomon to ride upon king David's mule, and brought him to Gihon.

2 Samuel 8:18 (Parallel theme): And Benaiah the son of Jehoiada was over both the Cherethites and the Pelethites; and David's sons were chief rulers.

Zephaniah 2:5 (Parallel theme): Woe unto the inhabitants of the sea coast, the nation of the Cherethites! the word of the LORD is against you; O Canaan, the land of the Philistines, I will even destroy thee, that there shall be no inhabitant.

Joshua 14:13 (Parallel theme): And Joshua blessed him, and gave unto Caleb the son of Jephunneh Hebron for an inheritance.

Joshua 15:13 (Parallel theme): And unto Caleb the son of Jephunneh he gave a part among the children of Judah, according to the commandment of the LORD to Joshua, even the city of Arba the father of Anak, which city is Hebron.

1 Samuel 30:1 (Parallel theme): And it came to pass, when David and his men were come to Ziklag on the third day, that the Amalekites had invaded the south, and Ziklag, and smitten Ziklag, and burned it with fire;

1 Samuel 30:16 (Parallel theme): And when he had brought him down, behold, they were spread abroad upon all the earth, eating and drinking, and dancing, because of all the great spoil that they had taken out of the land of the Philistines, and out of the land of Judah.

1 Chronicles 18:17 (Parallel theme): And Benaiah the son of Jehoiada was over the Cherethites and the Pelethites; and the sons of David were chief about the king.