

1 Samuel 30:20

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And David took all the flocks and the herds, which they drove before those other cattle, and said, This is David's spoil.

Analysis

The additional spoil beyond what the Amalekites had stolen represents the increase from David's victory. The phrase 'This is David's spoil' may indicate his men's acclaim or an official distribution designation. This surplus, plundered from the Amalekites themselves, provided resources David would strategically distribute. What began as devastating loss concludes with net gain. God's restoration not only recovers what was lost but adds blessing beyond the original state.

Historical Context

Warriors traditionally received spoil proportional to their participation in victory. David's personal portion would have been substantial as commander, providing resources for the political gifts described in verses 26-31.

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Study Questions

1. How has God turned your losses into unexpected gains?

2. What resources have come through overcoming adversity that you would not have had otherwise?

Interlinear Text

וְיָקַר	וְיָדָה	אֶת	כָּל	הַצָּאן	רֵבֶבֶת	וְנָגָד
took	And David	H853	H3605	all the flocks	and the herds	which they drove
H3947	H1732			H6629	H1241	H5090

לִפְנֵי	שָׁלַל	זֶה	וְיָאמְרָה	הַהִיא	פְּנַחַד	בְּיַדְךָ
before	other cattle	those	and said	H2088	spoil	And David
H6440	H4735	H1931	H559		H7998	H1732

Additional Cross-References

1 Samuel 30:26 (References David): And when David came to Ziklag, he sent of the spoil unto the elders of Judah, even to his friends, saying, Behold a present for you of the spoil of the enemies of the LORD;

Isaiah 53:12 (Parallel theme): Therefore will I divide him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he hath poured out his soul unto death: and he was numbered with the transgressors; and he bare the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

Romans 8:37 (Parallel theme): Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.

2 Chronicles 20:25 (Parallel theme): And when Jehoshaphat and his people came to take away the spoil of them, they found among them in abundance both riches with the dead bodies, and precious jewels, which they stripped off for themselves, more than they could carry away: and they were three days in gathering of the spoil, it was so much.