1 Samuel 30:26

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

> 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;

Analysis

David's distribution of spoil to 'the elders of Judah' reveals strategic thinking during national transition. The phrase 'even to his friends' (Hebrew: 'lere'ehu') indicates these were allies who had supported him during his wilderness years. The framing, 'a present for you of the spoil of the enemies of the LORD,' connects the gift to Israel's ancient conflict with Amalek. David positions himself as the one completing what Saul failed to do, subtly preparing for kingship while Saul still reigns.

Historical Context

The gift distribution occurred while Saul still lived but anticipated the transition David knew was coming. The locations mentioned in verses 27-31 correspond to areas that had sheltered David during his wilderness period.

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Study Questions

1. How do you honor those who supported you before success came?
2. What strategic thinking shapes your generosity?

Interlinear Text

וַיָּבֹ א	דָוִד	אֶל	וַיִּשַׁלַ ח צְ קְלַ ג	מִשְׁלַ ל
came	And when David	H413	to Ziklag / he sent	for you of the spoil
H935	H1732		H6860 / H7971	H7998

לִזְקֵנֵ י	יְהוּדָ ה	לְרֵעֵ הוּ	לֵאמֹ ר	הִנֵּ ה	לָכֶם
unto the elders	of Judah	even to his friends	saying	H2009	H0
H2205	H3063	H7453	H559		

בְּרָכָ ה	מִשְׁלַ ל	אֹיְבֵ י	יְהוָה:
Behold a present	for you of the spoil	of the enemies	of the LORD
H1293	H7998	H341	H3068

Additional Cross-References

1 Samuel 25:27 (References Lord): And now this blessing which thine handmaid hath brought unto my lord, let it even be given unto the young men that follow my lord.