

1 Samuel 31:8

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And it came to pass on the morrow, when the Philistines came to strip the slain, that they found Saul and his three sons fallen in mount Gilboa.

Analysis

The Philistine discovery of the royal corpses the day after the battle enables their desecration. The Hebrew 'lepashet' (to strip) indicates removal of valuable armor and weapons. Finding Saul and his sons 'fallen in mount Gilboa' completes the geographic note: they died where the battle raged, not fleeing. The exposure of their bodies to enemy discovery sets the stage for the humiliations to follow.

Historical Context

Stripping the dead was standard practice after ancient battles. Armor, weapons, and jewelry were valuable spoils. The delay of a day before Philistine looting suggests they secured the battlefield before searching corpses.

Related Passages

1 John 4:8 — God is love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. What does the exposure of the dead to enemy discovery reveal about the completeness of defeat?
2. How do the honored become dishonored when they fall outside God's protection?

Interlinear Text

וַיְהִי	מָמָחָר ת	וַיָּבֹאוּ	פְּלִשְׁתִּים יָם	לִפְשֵׁי ט			
H1961	And it came to pass on the morrow	came	when the Philistines	to strip			
	H4283	H935	H6430	H6584			
אֶת	הַחֲלָלִים יָם	וַיִּמְצְאוּ	אֶת	שָׁלֹשׁ נָשִׁים	בְּנֵי יוֹ		
H853	the slain	that they found	H853	Saul	H853	and his three	sons
	H2491	H4672		H7586		H7969	H1121
נָפְלוּ יָם	בְּהַר	הַגִּלְבֹּעַ:					
fallen	in mount	Gilboa					
H5307	H2022	H1533					

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