

Deuteronomy 1:22

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And ye came near unto me every one of you, and said, We will send men before us, and they shall search us out the land, and bring us word again by what way we must go up, and into what cities we shall come.

Analysis

Israel's suggestion to send spies 'to search us out the land' appears prudent but reveals the seeds of unbelief. While reconnaissance is wise, their request implies uncertainty about God's promise and provision. The phrase 'bring us word again' shows dependence on human assessment rather than divine declaration. This illustrates how reasonable planning can mask faithlessness when it supplants trust in God's clear promises.

Historical Context

This request led to the spy mission of Numbers 13, where 10 spies brought a faithless report despite seeing evidence of God's promise. The incident became a defining moment of unbelief that cost an entire generation entrance into Canaan.

Related Passages

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. When does reasonable planning cross into faithless hesitation?
2. How do you discern between wise preparation and distrust of God's promises?

Interlinear Text

וַתִּקְרַב יוֹן אֵלַי כְּלִכְמֹ וַתֹּאמֶר וְ נִשְׁלַח הָ
And ye came near H413 H3605 **unto me every one of you and said** **We will send**
H7126 H559 H7971

לִפְנֵי יוֹן אֲנָשִׁים וַיִּחְפְּרוּ אֶת לָנוּ הָאָרֶץ
H376 **before** **us and they shall search us out** H0 H853 **the land**
H6440 H2658 H776

וַיֵּשׁ בּוֹ אֶת דְּבַר אֵת הַדָּבָר אֲשֶׁר נִעְלָה בָּהֶם
again H853 **us word** H853 **by what way** H834 **we must go up** H0
H7725 H1697 H1870 H5927

וְאֵת הָעָרִים אֲשֶׁר נָבֵא אֵלֵיהֶן:
H853 **and into what cities** H834 **we shall come** H413
H5892 H935