

Deuteronomy 1:35

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Surely there shall not one of these men of this evil generation see that good land, which I sware to give unto your fathers,

Analysis

The emphatic oath formula 'Surely there shall not one of these men' underscores divine determination. The contrast between 'this evil generation' and 'that good land' highlights the incompatibility between persistent unbelief and covenant blessing. God's promise to give the land 'which I sware unto their fathers' reveals covenantal faithfulness—though this generation forfeits inheritance, God's promises to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob stand inviolate. This demonstrates the Reformed doctrine that God's elective purposes cannot be thwarted by human unfaithfulness (Romans 11:29).

Historical Context

References God's covenant promises to the patriarchs (Genesis 12:7, 13:15, 15:18-21, 26:3, 28:13). Though made 600+ years earlier, these promises remained binding. The 'evil generation' refers specifically to those who witnessed the plagues, Red Sea crossing, and Sinai revelation yet still refused to trust God's ability to overcome Canaanite opposition.

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. How does God's faithfulness to His promises despite human unfaithfulness reveal the foundation of Reformed assurance?
2. What does this verse teach about the seriousness of covenant privileges and the danger of spurning divine grace?

Interlinear Text

אִם	יִרְאֶה ה'	בְּאֵנֶשׁ יִם	בְּאֵנֶשׁ יִם	הָא לָהּ		
H518	see	Surely there shall not one	Surely there shall not one	H428		
	H7200	H376	H376			
הַדּוֹר	הַבַּעַל	אֶת הַזֶּה	הָאָרֶץ	הַטּוֹבָה	אֲשֶׁר	
generation	of this evil	H2088	H853	land	that good	H834
H1755	H7451			H776	H2896	
נִשְׁבַּע עֲתִי	לִתְּתֵי	לְאֲבֹתֵיכֶם:				
which I swear	to give	unto your fathers				
H7650	H5414	H1				