

Deuteronomy 1:6

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The LORD our God spake unto us in Horeb, saying, Ye have dwelt long enough in this mount:

Analysis

Moses recounts God's directive to depart from Horeb, emphasizing that it was time to move from receiving the law to acting on it. The command to 'go to the mount of the Amorites, and unto all the places nigh thereunto' specifies the land's boundaries—from the Arabah to the mountain region, from the lowland to the Negev, from the seacoast to Lebanon and the Euphrates. This comprehensive geographical description demonstrates God's specific promises and Israel's vast inheritance. The Hebrew 'bo' (go/enter) implies taking possession, not merely visiting.

Historical Context

God's command came at Horeb after the covenant was established and the tabernacle constructed. The land description encompasses the full extent of the Abrahamic promise (Genesis 15:18-21), though Israel never fully possessed it until David and Solomon's reigns. The Amorites represent the Canaanite peoples generally. The boundaries describe roughly modern Israel/Palestine plus portions of Lebanon, Syria, and Jordan.

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Study Questions

1. How does God's detailed description of the promised land demonstrate His faithfulness to specific promises?
2. What unfulfilled promises of God are you called to 'go up and possess' in faith?

Interlinear Text

הָיָה יְהוָה	אֱלֹהֵינוּ	דָּבָר	אֵלֶיךָ בְּ	בְּחֹרֶב	לְאַמְרָת	רַב
The LORD	our God	spake	H413	unto us in Horeb	saying	long enough
H3068	H430	H1696		H2722	H559	H7227
לְכָךְ	בְּתַת	שָׁבֵת	בְּהַר	בְּזִהְרָה		
H0	Ye have dwelt	in this mount	H2022	H2088		
	H3427					

Additional Cross-References

Exodus 3:1 (References God): Now Moses kept the flock of Jethro his father in law, the priest of Midian: and he led the flock to the backside of the desert, and came to the mountain of God, even to Horeb.

Exodus 17:6 (Parallel theme): Behold, I will stand before thee there upon the rock in Horeb; and thou shalt smite the rock, and there shall come water out of it, that the people may drink. And Moses did so in the sight of the elders of Israel.