

Deuteronomy 11:24

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Every place whereon the soles of your feet shall tread shall be your's: from the wilderness and Lebanon, from the river, the river Euphrates, even unto the uttermost sea shall your coast be.

Analysis

The extent of conquest: 'Every place whereon the soles of your feet shall tread shall be yours.' This promise links possession to actual occupation—Israel must physically enter and claim the land. The boundaries specified: 'from the wilderness and Lebanon, from the river, the river Euphrates, even unto the uttermost sea.' This describes maximum extent: southern wilderness (Negev), northern Lebanon, eastern Euphrates, western Mediterranean. Joshua 1:3-4 repeats this promise. Remarkably, Israel never fully possessed these boundaries except briefly under Solomon (1 Kings 4:21, 24), suggesting partial obedience yielded partial blessing. Full obedience would have yielded full inheritance.

Historical Context

The specified boundaries match God's covenant with Abraham (Genesis 15:18): 'from the river of Egypt to...the river Euphrates.' David's conquests (2 Samuel 8:3) reached Euphrates, and Solomon's kingdom extended from 'the river unto the land of the Philistines, and unto the border of Egypt' (1 Kings 4:21). However, Israel never maintained permanent control, and divided kingdom after Solomon shrunk territory further. The promise remains partially unfulfilled, perhaps awaiting eschatological fulfillment in Messiah's reign.

Related Passages

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. How does this promise illustrate the principle that God's blessings often require our active participation to possess?
2. What does Israel's partial conquest teach about the consequences of incomplete obedience?
3. How might this territorial promise relate to Messianic kingdom prophecies of universal dominion?

Interlinear Text

כָּל	הַמָּקוֹם וּמִ	אֲשֶׁר	תִּדְרֹךְ	כָּף	בְּגִלְכֶם	בְּ
H3605	Every place	H834	shall tread	whereon the soles	of your feet	H0
	H4725		H1869	H3709	H7272	
מִן	יְהִי הָ	לְכֶם	הַמִּדְבָּר	וְהַלְבָּנוֹן וּן	מִן	
H0	H1961	H4480	shall be yours from the wilderness	and Lebanon	H4480	
			H4057	H3844		
נָהָר	נָהָר	פְּכֵת	יָם וְעַד	הַיָּם	הָאֲחֵר וְ	
from the river	from the river	Euphrates	H5704	sea	even unto the uttermost	
H5104	H5104	H6578		H3220	H314	
יְהִי הָ	גְּבֻלְכֶם:					
H1961	shall your coast					
	H1366					

Additional Cross-References

Joshua 14:9 (Parallel theme): And Moses sware on that day, saying, Surely the land whereon thy feet have trodden shall be thine inheritance, and thy children's for ever, because thou hast wholly followed the LORD my God.

Exodus 23:31 (Parallel theme): And I will set thy bounds from the Red sea even unto the sea of the Philistines, and from the desert unto the river: for I will deliver the inhabitants of the land into your hand; and thou shalt drive them out before thee.

1 Kings 4:21 (Parallel theme): And Solomon reigned over all kingdoms from the river unto the land of the Philistines, and unto the border of Egypt: they brought presents, and served Solomon all the days of his life.

2 Chronicles 9:26 (Parallel theme): And he reigned over all the kings from the river even unto the land of the Philistines, and to the border of Egypt.

1 Kings 4:24 (Parallel theme): For he had dominion over all the region on this side the river, from Tiphshah even to Azzah, over all the kings on this side the river: and he had peace on all sides round about him.