

Deuteronomy 19:1

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

When the LORD thy God hath cut off the nations, whose land the LORD thy God giveth thee, and thou succeedest them, and dwellest in their cities, and in their houses;

Analysis

When the LORD thy God hath cut off the nations, whose land the LORD thy God giveth thee, and thou succeedest them, and dwellest in their cities, and in their houses. God's sovereignty in displacing Canaanite nations and granting their land to Israel demonstrates both divine judgment on wicked peoples and divine grace in giving undeserved inheritance to redeemed people.

The phrase the LORD thy God hath cut off indicates God actively judges and removes the Canaanites. Their displacement results from accumulated iniquity (Genesis 15:16) - God uses Israel as instrument of judgment on peoples whose wickedness has reached fullness.

That Israel succeedest them and dwells in their cities and houses shows they inherit what others built. This unearned possession typifies grace - believers inherit spiritual blessings in Christ that they did not earn or construct.

This inheritance carries responsibility - Israel must not imitate the sins that brought judgment on the previous inhabitants lest they too be displaced for wickedness.

Historical Context

Joshua led Israel's conquest of Canaan, dispossessing various Canaanite peoples. The conquest was not complete ethnic cleansing but divine judgment on cultures characterized by idolatry, sexual perversion, and child sacrifice.

Israel's later exile proved they were not immune to judgment - when they adopted the abominations of the nations, God similarly expelled them from the land.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Study Questions

1. What does God's judgment of Canaanite nations teach about His righteousness and holiness?
2. How does Israel's unearned inheritance typify grace in receiving spiritual blessings?
3. Why must those who receive inheritance avoid the sins that brought judgment on previous occupants?
4. What does Israel's later exile teach about God's impartiality in judgment?
5. How should understanding grace as unearned inheritance affect our stewardship of spiritual blessings?

Interlinear Text

כִּי	יִכָּרֶ יֵת	יְהוָה	אֱלֹהֶיךָ	אֶת	הַגּוֹיִם	אֲשֶׁר
H3588	hath cut off	When the LORD	thy God	H853	the nations	H834
	H3772	H3068	H430		H1471	
	יְהוָה	אֱלֹהֶיךָ	נָתַן	לְךָ	אֶת	אֶרֶץ
	When the LORD	thy God	giveth	H0	H853	whose land
	H3068	H430	H5414			H776
	וְיָרִשְׁתָּ	וְיִשְׁבְּתָ	בְּעָרֵיהֶם	וּבְבָתֵּיהֶם:		
	thee and thou succeedest	them and dwellest	in their cities	and in their houses		
	H3423	H3427	H5892	H1004		

Additional Cross-References

Deuteronomy 12:29 (References God): When the LORD thy God shall cut off the nations from before thee, whither thou goest to possess them, and thou succeedest them, and dwellest in their land;

Deuteronomy 6:10 (References God): And it shall be, when the LORD thy God shall have brought thee into the land which he sware unto thy fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give thee great and goodly cities, which thou buildedst not,

Deuteronomy 17:14 (References God): When thou art come unto the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee, and shalt possess it, and shalt dwell therein, and shalt say, I will set a king over me, like as all the nations that are about me;