

# Deuteronomy 2:12

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The Horims also dwelt in Seir beforetime; but the children of Esau succeeded them, when they had destroyed them from before them, and dwelt in their stead; as Israel did unto the land of his possession, which the LORD gave unto them.

## Analysis

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The parallel drawn—"The Horims also dwelt in Seir beforetime; but the children of Esau succeeded them"—shows God's pattern of giving nations victory over previous inhabitants. Just as Esau's descendants displaced the Horites and Israel would displace the Canaanites, God orchestrates the rise and fall of peoples according to His purposes. This historical pattern reveals God's active sovereignty in human affairs, not passive observation.

## Historical Context

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The Horites (Hurrians) were the original inhabitants of Seir/Edom before Esau's descendants conquered them (Genesis 36:20-30). Archaeological evidence confirms Hurrian presence throughout the ancient Near East. This displacement parallels Israel's conquest, demonstrating that God's providential control extends beyond the covenant people to all nations.

## Related Passages

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**1 John 4:8** — God is love

**1 Corinthians 13:4** — Characteristics of love

## Study Questions

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1. How does understanding God's sovereignty over all history affect your view of current events?
2. What inheritance has God given you that required displacing former 'inhabitants' (sins, habits, mindsets)?

## Interlinear Text

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וְשָׁעַ יִר	וְשָׁב וְ	הַחֲרִים	מִפְּנֵיהֶם	וְכִן י	עָשָׂה וְ
<b>in Seir</b>	<b>also dwelt</b>	<b>The Horims</b>	<b>beforetime</b>	<b>but the children</b>	<b>of Esau</b>
H8165	H3427	H2752	H6440	H1121	H6215
וַיִּכָּשְׁלֵם	וַיִּשְׁמְדוּם	מִפְּנֵיהֶם	וְשָׁב וְ	תַּחֲתֵיהֶם	
<b>succeeded</b>	<b>them when they had destroyed</b>	<b>beforetime</b>	<b>also dwelt</b>		
H3423	H8045	H6440	H3427	H8478	
כָּאֲשֶׁר	עָשָׂה	יִשְׂרָאֵל	לְאֶרֶץ	יְרֵשֶׁת וְ	אֲשֶׁר
H834	<b>did</b>	<b>in their stead as Israel</b>	<b>unto the land</b>	<b>of his possession</b>	H834
	H6213	H3478	H776	H3425	
נָתַן	יְהוָה	לָהֶם:			
<b>gave</b>	<b>which the LORD</b>				
H5414	H3068	H0			

## Additional Cross-References

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**Deuteronomy 2:22** (Parallel theme): As he did to the children of Esau, which dwelt in Seir, when he destroyed the Horims from before them; and they succeeded them, and dwelt in their stead even unto this day:

**Genesis 14:6** (Parallel theme): And the Horites in their mount Seir, unto El-paran, which is by the wilderness.