

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

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

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

1 John 4:8 — God is love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Study Questions

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

עישׁוּ וְבָנֵי מִפְנִימָה מִקְהָרִים יִשְׁבּוּ וְבָשָׁעַ יְרַחֲמֵיכֶם

in Seir **also dwelt** **The Horims** **beforetime** **but the children** **of Esau**
H8165 H3427 H2752 H6440 H1121 H6215

| | | | | |
|------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------|
| וַיַּרְשׁ | וְיִשְׁמַדּוּם | מִפְנִיה | בְּשַׁבָּע | מִתְחַת |
| succeeded | them when they had destroyed | beforetime | also dwelt | H8478 |
| H3423 | H8045 | H6440 | H3427 | |

אֲשֶׁר יְרַשְׁתָּו לֹא רָצֶן לְשָׁאָל נָשָׁה הַפָּאָשָׁר H834 did in their stead as Israel unto the land of his possession H834 H6213 H3478 H776 H3425

לְקַמְּנָה הַיְהִי תְּמִתָּה
which the LORD gave H3068 H5414 H0

Additional Cross-References

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.