

Deuteronomy 2:19

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And when thou comest nigh over against the children of Ammon, distress them not, nor meddle with them: for I will not give thee of the land of the children of Ammon any possession; because I have given it unto the children of Lot for a possession.

Analysis

God's instruction regarding Ammon—'distress them not, nor meddle with them'—extends the same restriction placed on Edom and Moab. The reason 'for I will not give thee of the land of the children of Ammon any possession' clarifies divine land distribution. The additional explanation 'because I have given it unto the children of Lot for a possession' shows God's promises extend beyond Abraham's line. His sovereignty includes gracious provision for other descendants.

Historical Context

Ammon, like Moab, descended from Lot through incestuous union with his daughters (Genesis 19:38). Despite this shameful origin, God protected Ammon's territorial rights, showing that His mercy transcends human failure. Later, Ammon would oppose Israel (Judges 11; 1 Samuel 11), yet at this point God commanded restraint, teaching that current obedience matters more than future hostility.

Related Passages

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. How does God's protection of peoples outside His covenant people challenge nationalistic or exclusive thinking?
2. What restraint is God calling you to exercise despite apparent opportunity or justification for action?

Interlinear Text

וְקָרַבְתָּ	מִן	לְבָנֵי	עַם	אֶל
And when thou comest nigh	over against	it unto the children	of Ammon	
H7126	H4136	H1121	H5983	H408
וְאֵל	תִּתֶנָּה	לֹא	כִּי	נָתַתִּי יָדִי
distress	them not nor meddle			because I have given
H6696	H1624	H0	H3588	H3808
				H5414
מֵאֶרֶץ	לְבָנֵי	עַם	לְבָ	יְרֵשָׁה:
thee of the land	it unto the children	of Ammon		any possession
H776	H1121	H5983	H0	H3425
				H3588
לְבָנֵי	לֹט	נָתַתִּי יָדִי	יְרֵשָׁה:	
it unto the children	of Lot	because I have given	any possession	
H1121	H3876	H5414	H3425	

Additional Cross-References

Deuteronomy 2:9 (Parallel theme): And the LORD said unto me, Distress not the Moabites, neither contend with them in battle: for I will not give thee of their land for a possession; because I have given Ar unto the children of Lot for a possession.

2 Chronicles 20:10 (Parallel theme): And now, behold, the children of Ammon and Moab and mount Seir, whom thou wouldest not let Israel invade, when they came out of the land of Egypt, but they turned from them, and destroyed them not;

