

Deuteronomy 2:20

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

(That also was accounted a land of giants: giants dwelt therein in old time; and the Ammonites call them Zamzummims;

Analysis

The designation of Ammon as 'a land of giants' reinforces the pattern that God gave various nations victory over formidable inhabitants. The phrase 'giants dwelt therein in old time' establishes historical reality—these weren't myths but actual peoples. The Ammonites' name for them, 'Zamzummims,' preserves cultural memory. This repeated pattern shows God's consistent power to overcome human obstacles regardless of which people He's blessing.

Historical Context

The Zamzummim (also called Zuzim in Genesis 14:5) were another Rephaim people group defeated before Israel's arrival. This pattern of giant peoples throughout the region—Emim in Moab, Horim in Edom, Anakim in Canaan, Zamzummim in Ammon—confirms the widespread presence of these peoples and validates the biblical account's historical basis.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Study Questions

1. How does knowing God has consistently defeated 'giants' throughout history encourage your faith?
2. What obstacles in your life seem like giants that God has actually already purposed for your victory?

Interlinear Text

אֶרֶץ	גִּיָּמִים	תִּחְשָׁב	אֶף	הָ	וְ	גִּיָּמִים	יָשְׁבוּ
a land	giants	That also was accounted	H637	H1931		giants	dwelt
H776	H7497	H2803				H7497	H3427

בָּהּ	לְפָנַי	וְהָעַמֹּנִים	וְקָרָא	לָהֶם
H0	therein in old time	and the Ammonites	call	H1992
	H6440	H5984	H7121	

וְזַמְזֻמִּים:

them Zamzummims

H2157

Additional Cross-References

Genesis 14:5 (Parallel theme): And in the fourteenth year came Chedorlaomer, and the kings that were with him, and smote the Rephaims in Ashteroth Karnaim, and the Zuzims in Ham, and the Emims in Shaveh Kiriathaim,