

Deuteronomy 2:6

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Ye shall buy meat of them for money, that ye may eat; and ye shall also buy water of them for money, that ye may drink.

Analysis

The command 'Ye shall buy meat of them for money... buy water of them for money' institutes commercial rather than combative relations with Edom. Israel must purchase provisions despite being God's chosen people, teaching humility and respect. The ability to buy implies Israel had acquired wealth (from Egypt and spoils), which they should use righteously. This models ethical conduct even toward those outside the covenant community.

Historical Context

This contrasts with God's provision of manna and water in the wilderness. As Israel approached inhabited regions, they would increasingly need to engage in normal economic activity. The shift from miraculous provision to marketplace purchase prepared them for life in Canaan.

Related Passages

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. How do you treat those outside your faith community in business and daily interactions?
2. What does paying fair prices regardless of your status teach about integrity?

Interlinear Text

כָּל meat H400	וּתִשָּׁבֶר Ye shall buy H7666	מֵאֲתָם H853	בְּכֶסֶף of them for money H3701	וְאָכַלְתֶּם that ye may eat H398	וְגַם H1571	מַיִם water H4325
	וְתָכַר and ye shall also buy H3739	מֵאֲתָם H853	בְּכֶסֶף of them for money H3701	וְשָׁתִיתֶם: that ye may drink H8354		

Additional Cross-References

Romans 12:17 (Parallel theme): Recompense to no man evil for evil. Provide things honest in the sight of all men.

Matthew 7:12 (Parallel theme): Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets.

Numbers 20:19 (Parallel theme): And the children of Israel said unto him, We will go by the high way: and if I and my cattle drink of thy water, then I will pay for it: I will only, without doing any thing else, go through on my feet.