

Deuteronomy 3:1

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then we turned, and went up the way to Bashan: and Og the king of Bashan came out against us, he and all his people, to battle at Edrei.

Analysis

The phrase 'we turned, and went up the way to Bashan' marks forward movement toward the Transjordan conquest. Og king of Bashan's aggressive response ('Og came out against us') provoked defensive warfare. Unlike Edom and Moab (which Israel was forbidden to attack), Bashan wasn't under divine protection. God sometimes allows enemies to initiate conflict to justify necessary battles. Og's aggression served God's purposes to give Israel this strategic territory.

Historical Context

Bashan was a fertile plateau region northeast of the Sea of Galilee, known for strong cattle (Psalm 22:12) and oak trees. Og's kingdom included 60 fortified cities (Deuteronomy 3:4-5). This conquest gave Israel control of the entire Transjordan from the Arnon to Mount Hermon.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. How do you discern when conflict is initiated by enemies versus when you're inappropriately aggressive?
2. What strategic territories in your spiritual life need to be conquered and possessed?

Interlinear Text

מֶלֶךְ	עֹג	וְאֶת	בְּבָשָׂן	וְהַ	וְעַל	וְגַם	מִן
the king	Og	and	Bashan	the way	of	we turned	and went up
H4428	H5747	H3318	H1316	H1870	H3605	H6437	H5927
לְמִלְחָמָה	עַמּוֹ	וְ	בְּבָשָׂן	וְאֶת	לְקַרְבָּתָן	וְאֶת	מִן
to battle	us	and all his people	Bashan	against	his people	the king	the way
H4421	H5971	H3605	H1931	H7125	H1316	H4428	H1870
אֶדְרֵי							
at Edrei							
H154							

Additional Cross-References

Deuteronomy 1:4 (Kingdom): After he had slain Sihon the king of the Amorites, which dwelt in Heshbon, and Og the king of Bashan, which dwelt at Astaroth in Edrei:

Deuteronomy 29:7 (Kingdom): And when ye came unto this place, Sihon the king of Heshbon, and Og the king of Bashan, came out against us unto battle, and we smote them:

Psalms 136:20 (Kingdom): And Og the king of Bashan: for his mercy endureth for ever: