

Exodus 16:27

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And it came to pass, that there went out some of the people on the seventh day for to gather, and they found none.

Analysis

And it came to pass, that there went out some of the people on the seventh day for to gather, and they found none—Despite clear instruction, 'some of the people' (אִנְשֵׁי, ha'am) disobey, revealing that flesh resists rest. Their futile search proves God's word: 'there shall be none.' This unnecessary labor on Sabbath pictures religious flesh that cannot cease working for acceptance, unable to rest in completed redemption. The verb 'found none' (לֹא מָצְאוּ, lo matz'u) echoes Jesus' statement about those who seek salvation through works: 'many will seek to enter in, and shall not be able' (Luke 13:24). Sabbath-breaking exposes hearts that refuse grace, insisting on self-provision even when God declares the work complete.

Historical Context

This occurred on the first Sabbath after receiving manna instructions, showing how quickly human nature rebels against rest. Their disobedience brought divine rebuke in verse 28.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. What drives the compulsion to 'gather' on Sabbath despite God's promise of sufficiency?
2. How does refusing rest in Christ's finished work manifest in ongoing attempts to earn righteousness?

Interlinear Text

וַיְהִי H1961	בַּיּוֹם day H3117	הַשְּׁבִיעִי on the seventh H7637	וַיָּצֵא And it came to pass that there went out H3318	מִן H4480
הָעָם some of the people H5971	לְלֶקֶט for to gather H3950	וְלֹא H3808	מָצְאוּ and they found H4672	