

Ezekiel 47:19

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the south side southward, from Tamar even to the waters of strife in Kadesh, the river to the great sea. And this is the south side southward.

Analysis

And the south side southward, from Tamar even to the waters of strife in Kadesh, the river to the great sea. And this is the south side southward—

Southern boundary: מִתָּמָר (mittāmār, 'from Tamar') to מֵי מְרִיבַת קָדֵשׁ (mê mērîbat Qādēsh, 'waters of Meribah-Kadesh'), then נַחֲלָה (naḥlāh, 'the river/wadi') to הַיָּם הַגָּדוֹל (hayyām haggādôl, 'the great sea'—Mediterranean). וְעַתָּה נֶגֶב תְּמָנָה (wě'ēt pē'at negeb tēmānāh, 'and this is the south side southward').

Meribah-Kadesh recalls Israel's wilderness rebellion (Numbers 20:1-13)—Moses struck the rock, water flowed, but he was barred from Canaan. Including Meribah as boundary marker transforms rebellion's site into blessing's border. God redeems history: places of failure become landmarks of grace. The southern boundary reaches roughly Beer-sheba region—traditional southern extent ('from Dan to Beer-sheba'—Judges 20:1).

Historical Context

Tamar (possibly modern Ein Tamar, southwest Dead Sea) and Kadesh-Barnea (oasis in northern Sinai) marked Israel's southern wilderness frontier. Meribah-Kadesh was where Moses sinned but God still provided water (Numbers 20). Ezekiel's use of this location as boundary transforms it: no longer just rebellion's site but covenant marker. God's grace overwhelms history's failures, redeeming even places associated with sin.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Study Questions

1. What is significant about Meribah (rebellion site) becoming a blessing boundary?
2. How does God redeem places associated with historical failures?
3. What does transforming wilderness locations into covenant markers teach about grace?

Interlinear Text

פְּאֵת	נֶגְבָּהּ:	תֵּימָן נָה	מִתַּמָּר	עַד	מִי		
side	And the south	And this is the south	from Tamar	H5704	even to the waters		
H6285	H5045	H8486	H8559		H4325		
מְרִיב וְת	קֶדֶשׁ	נַחֲלֵה	אֵל	הַיָּם	הַגָּדוֹל	וְאֵת	פְּאֵת
of strife	in Kadesh	the river	H413	sea	to the great	H853	side
H4808	H6946	H5158		H3220	H1419		H6285
	תֵּימָן נָה	נֶגְבָּהּ:					
	And this is the south	And the south					
	H8486	H5045					

Additional Cross-References

Deuteronomy 32:51 (Parallel theme): Because ye trespassed against me among the children of Israel at the waters of Meribah-Kadesh, in the wilderness of Zin; because ye sanctified me not in the midst of the children of Israel.

Ezekiel 48:28 (Parallel theme): And by the border of Gad, at the south side southward, the border shall be even from Tamar unto the waters of strife in Kadesh, and to the river toward the great sea.

Numbers 20:13 (Parallel theme): This is the water of Meribah; because the children of Israel strove with the LORD, and he was sanctified in them.

Numbers 34:5 (Parallel theme): And the border shall fetch a compass from Azmon unto the river of Egypt, and the goings out of it shall be at the sea.

From KJV Study • kjevstudy.org