

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: מֵ מְרִיבַת מִתָּמָר (mittāmār, 'from Tamar') to מֵ מְרִיבַת קָדֵשׁ (mê mērībat Qādēsh, 'waters of Meribah-Kadesh'), then נַחַלָה (nahālāh, 'the river/wadi') to הַיָּם וְאֵת פָּאָת הַגָּדוֹל (hayyām haggādōl, 'the great sea'—Mediterranean). (wē'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

מִ	פָּאַת	עַד	מִתְּמַמָּה	רַ	תִּימְּנָה	תִּגְּבָהָה:	פָּאַת
even to the waters	H4325	H5704	H8559	H8486	from Tamar	And this is the south	side

פָּאַת	אֵ	תִּ	הַגְּדָד	וְלָ	בִּים	אֶל	נַחַל	הַ	קָדֵשׁ	מְרִיב	וְתַ
side	H853	H6285	to the great	H1419	H3220	H413	H5158	H6946	in Kadesh	the river	of strife

תִּגְּבָהָה:	תִּימְּנָה	פָּאַת
And this is the south	And the south	side
H8486	H5045	H6285

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.

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