

Ezekiel 48:24

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And by the border of Benjamin, from the east side unto the west side, Simeon shall have a portion.

Analysis

And by the border of Benjamin, from the east side unto the west side, Simeon shall have a portion. Simeon's placement south of Benjamin is remarkable given this tribe's problematic history. Jacob's deathbed prophecy pronounced scattering for Simeon and Levi due to their violence at Shechem (Genesis 49:5-7). While Levi's scattering became sanctified through priestly service, Simeon was absorbed into Judah's territory (Joshua 19:1, 9) and virtually disappears from biblical history after the judges period.

Yet in this eschatological vision, Simeon receives full restoration and equal inheritance—a powerful picture of God's redemptive grace. The identical formula gam-Shimon echad (תְּנַשֵּׁת יְהוָה עָשָׂה, "Simeon [shall have] one [portion]") used for all twelve tribes demonstrates that divine grace transcends historical failure. This parallels the New Testament reality where those once "not a people" become God's people through Christ (1 Peter 2:10).

Historical Context

Simeon's history illustrates the consequences of violence and the power of grace. After the Shechem massacre (Genesis 34), Jacob cursed Simeon and Levi to be scattered. Simeon received cities within Judah's territory rather than a distinct region (Joshua 19:1-9). The tribe's population dramatically decreased between the two census counts (Numbers 1:23 vs. 26:14), and Simeon receives no blessing in

Moses' farewell (Deuteronomy 33). By David's time, Simeon had largely been absorbed into Judah, making this restoration prophecy all the more gracious.

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

1 John 4:8 — God is love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Study Questions

1. How does Simeon's full restoration despite historical failure illustrate the gospel of grace?
2. What hope does this offer to individuals or communities with troubled spiritual histories?

Interlinear Text

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|---------------|-------------------|--------------|-------------|--------|-------|---------------|
| וְעַל | גַּבְּ | לֵ | בְּנִימִ | פָּאַת | עַד | פָּאַת |
| H5921 | And by the border | H1366 | of Benjamin | H1144 | side | from the east |
| | | | | H6285 | H6921 | H5704 |
| וְעַל | שְׁמֻעָ | וְיַמָּה | אָפָד: | | | side |
| unto the west | Simeon | shall have a | | | | H6285 |
| H3220 | H8095 | H259 | | | | |

Additional Cross-References

Genesis 29:33 (Parallel theme): And she conceived again, and bare a son; and said, Because the LORD hath heard that I was hated, he hath therefore given me this son also: and she called his name Simeon.

