

Ezekiel 48:27

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And by the border of Zebulun, from the east side unto the west side, Gad a portion.

Analysis

And by the border of Zebulun, from the east side unto the west side, Gad a portion. Gad's placement as the sixth and southernmost tribe before the final southern border is significant. Gad was Zilpah's son (Leah's handmaid), and his name means "troop" or "fortune" (Genesis 30:11). Jacob's blessing declared: "Gad, a troop shall overcome him: but he shall overcome at the last" (Genesis 49:19)—a prophecy of military struggle ending in victory. Moses blessed Gad as one who "dwelleth as a lion, and teareth the arm with the crown of the head" (Deuteronomy 33:20).

Historically, Gad settled east of the Jordan (Transjordan), making them frontier defenders against Ammonite and Moabite incursions. Yet in Ezekiel's vision, Gad receives territory west of the Jordan in the main promised land—no longer on the margins but fully incorporated. This relocation symbolizes that in the restoration, all God's people dwell securely in the inheritance without the vulnerability of frontier exposure. The warrior tribe receives rest from warfare.

Historical Context

Gad, Reuben, and half of Manasseh requested to settle east of the Jordan (Numbers 32), which Moses granted on condition they help conquer Canaan proper. Gad's territory (Joshua 13:24-28) faced constant pressure from Moab and Ammon. The Gadites were renowned warriors—David's mighty men included valiant Gadites "whose faces were like the faces of lions" (1 Chronicles 12:8).

When Assyria conquered the northern kingdom (722 BCE), the Transjordanian tribes were among the first exiled (1 Chronicles 5:26). Ezekiel's vision restores them fully to the land.

Related Passages

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. What does Gad's relocation from the vulnerable frontier to the secure inheritance teach about God's ultimate rest for His warriors?
2. How does this vision of former 'margin-dwellers' receiving full inheritance speak to those who feel on the periphery of God's people?

Interlinear Text

וְעַל	גֹּב וּלְ	זְבוּלֹן	פָּאֵת	קִדְמָה	עַד	פָּאֵת
H5921	And by the border	of Zebulun	side	from the east	H5704	side
	H1366	H2074	H6285	H6921		H6285
לְמַחֲ	גָד	אֶחָד:				
unto the west	Gad	a				
H3220	H1410	H259				