

Joshua 1:16

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And they answered Joshua, saying, All that thou commandest us we will do, and whithersoever thou sendest us, we will go.

Analysis

The Transjordan tribes' response demonstrates exemplary covenant loyalty: 'All that thou commandest us we will do' (kol asher-tsivitanu naasteh, כל אשר-ציתנו נאשׁתָה). Their comprehensive obedience ('all...we will do') and willingness to go anywhere ('whithersoever thou sendest us') models complete submission to Joshua's leadership. This response echoes Israel's commitment at Sinai ('all that the LORD hath spoken we will do,' Exodus 19:8, 24:3). From a Reformed perspective, this demonstrates that true faith produces obedience—genuine believers submit to God's appointed leadership and willingly go wherever sent.

Historical Context

This pledge wasn't mere words—the Transjordan tribes faithfully fulfilled it throughout the conquest, fighting courageously for seven years away from families. Their integrity in keeping this oath demonstrates covenant character. Later generations remembered their faithfulness as exemplary (Joshua 22:1-3).

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Study Questions

1. What comprehensive obedience ('all that thou commandest') is God requiring from you?
2. How willing are you to go 'whithersoever' God sends, even to difficult or undesired locations?
3. Does your obedience match your verbal commitments?

Interlinear Text

And they answered	H853	Joshua	saying	H3605	and whithersoever
	H6030		H3091	H559	H834
All that thou commandest	H6680	us we will do	H413	H3605	and whithersoever
	H1980		H6213		H834
thou sendest	H7971				

Additional Cross-References

Deuteronomy 5:27 (Parallel theme): Go thou near, and hear all that the LORD our God shall say: and speak thou unto us all that the LORD our God shall speak unto thee; and we will hear it, and do it.

Titus 3:1 (Parallel theme): Put them in mind to be subject to principalities and powers, to obey magistrates, to be ready to every good work,