

Joshua 18:27

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Rekem, and Irpeel, and Taralah,

Analysis

And Rekem, and Irpeel, and Taralah—Three obscure cities with little biblical mention. Rekem shares a name with a Midianite king (Numbers 31:8) and an individual (1 Chronicles 2:43-44). Irpeel and Taralah remain unidentified. Their obscurity reminds us that most faithful service occurs in forgotten places.

God's kingdom isn't built by celebrities but by countless obscure servants whose names only God remembers. These cities housed families who raised children, worked fields, and worshiped at Shiloh. Their quiet faithfulness mattered as much as the dramatic conquests. True greatness is hidden (Matthew 6:3-4).

Historical Context

Many small settlements in Benjamin's territory remain archaeologically unidentified. Ancient cities often had brief existence, destroyed by war or abandoned due to economic changes. These three names survive only in this biblical list.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. How does knowing God sees your hidden faithfulness encourage service in obscure places?
2. What biblical figures or cities barely mentioned still played crucial roles in God's plan?

Interlinear Text

וְרֶקֶם	וִירְפֵּא ל	וְתַרְאֵלָה:
And Rekem	and Irpeel	and Taralah
H7552	H3416	H8634

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