

Judges 20:45

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And they turned and fled toward the wilderness unto the rock of Rimmon: and they gleaned of them in the highways five thousand men; and pursued hard after them unto Gidom, and slew two thousand men of them.

Analysis

Verse 45 details the aftermath of Benjamin's defeat. And they turned and fled toward the wilderness unto the rock of Rimmon: and they gleaned of them in the highways five th... The systematic destruction of Benjamin's territory represents the tragic outcome when civil war erupts among God's people—victory comes at devastating cost to the covenant community.

Historical Context

This verse describes the thorough nature of Benjamin's military defeat and the subsequent destruction of their tribal territory following the ambush strategy blessed by God after Israel's proper consultation.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Study Questions

1. How do victories that come after proper seeking of God still carry tragic costs?
2. What does this reveal about the consequences of civil conflict among God's people?
3. How can righteous judgments escalate beyond their proper scope?

Interlinear Text

וַיִּפְּנוּ וַיִּסּוּ הַמִּדְבָּרָה אֶל סֵלַע הַר רִמּוֹן
And they turned and fled toward the wilderness unto the rock of Rimmon
H6437 H5127 H4057 H413 H5553 H7417

וַיַּעֲלֵלוּ הוּא בְּמִסְלֵי הַדֶּשֶׁת חֲמִשָּׁת אלֶּפֶס אִישׁ
and they gleaned of them in the highways five thousand men
H5953 H4546 H2568 H505 H376

וַיִּדְּבֹק יְקֹוֹ אַחֲרָיו עַד גִּדְעֹם וַיַּשֵּׁל וַיַּהַרֵם אֶלֶּפֶס
and pursued hard after them unto Gidom and slew thousand
H1692 H310 H5704 H1440 H5221 H4480 H505

אִישׁ
men
H376

Additional Cross-References

Joshua 15:32 (Parallel theme): And Lebaoth, and Shilhim, and Ain, and Rimmon: all the cities are twenty and nine, with their villages:

Judges 21:13 (Parallel theme): And the whole congregation sent some to speak to the children of Benjamin that were in the rock Rimmon, and to call peaceably unto them.