

Nehemiah 9:22

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Moreover thou gavest them kingdoms and nations, and didst divide them into corners: so they possessed the land of Sihon, and the land of the king of Heshbon, and the land of Og king of Bashan.

Analysis

Moreover thou gavest them kingdoms and nations, and didst divide them into corners: so they possessed the land of Sihon, and the land of the king of Heshbon, and the land of Og king of Bashan.

This verse within Nehemiah 9 addresses themes of confession, God's faithfulness, corporate prayer, covenant history. Extended corporate prayer recounts God's faithfulness through Israel's history while honestly confessing persistent covenant violations. This passage demonstrates biblical principles applicable across both testaments—God's sovereignty combined with human responsibility, faith expressed through obedient action, and the necessity of both individual and corporate commitment to covenant faithfulness. Nehemiah models leadership that combines vision, prayer, courage, integrity, and perseverance amid sustained opposition.

Historical Context

Nehemiah's account occurs during Persian imperial dominance (539-331 BC), specifically 445-433 BC under Artaxerxes I. The spiritual reforms under Ezra and Nehemiah shaped Judaism for centuries, establishing Scripture's centrality and patterns of worship continuing into the intertestamental period and beyond. The

Persian period was crucial transitional time when Jewish identity shifted from monarchical nationalism to Torah-centered covenantal community. Without political independence, the people's cohesion depended on shared scripture, temple worship, and covenant obedience. This established patterns persisting through the Second Temple period into New Testament times. Understanding this context illuminates Jesus's ministry among a people shaped by these reforms and challenges.

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. How does regular engagement with Scripture transform understanding of God and His will for your life?
2. What specific commitments do you need to make (or renew) regarding Bible reading, worship, and obedience?
3. How can the principles demonstrated in this passage inform your response to current challenges in your life or church?

Interlinear Text

וַתֵּן	לָהֶם	מַמְלָכוֹת	וְעַמִּים ים	וַתְּחַלֵּק ם			
Moreover thou gavest	H0	them kingdoms	and nations	and didst divide			
H5414		H4467	H5971	H2505			
לָפָא הֶ	וַיִּרְשׁוּ	אֶת	אֶרֶץ	אֶת סִיחֹן ון			
them into corners	so they possessed	H853	and the land	of Sihon			
H6285	H3423		H776	H5511			
אֶרֶץ	מֶלֶךְ	חֶשְׁבֹן ון	אֶת	אֶרֶץ	עֹג	מֶלֶךְ	הַבָּשָׁן:
and the land	king	of Heshbon	H853	and the land	of Og	king	of Bashan
H776	H4428	H2809		H776	H5747	H4428	H1316

