

Numbers 1:28

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Of the children of Issachar, by their generations, after their families, by the house of their fathers, according to the number of the names, from twenty years old and upward, all that were able to go forth to war;

Analysis

Issachar's census continues the pattern of detailed genealogical record-keeping that characterizes biblical historiography. Unlike pagan myths that deal in archetypes and generalities, Scripture insists on particular people in particular times, demonstrating that God's redemptive work unfolds in real history. This historical specificity grounds Christian faith in objective reality rather than subjective experience or philosophical speculation.

Historical Context

Issachar's territory in the Jezreel Valley became strategically important in Israel's history, serving as a crossroads for international trade and military campaigns. The tribe's location in fertile lowlands contributed to its later prosperity.

Related Passages

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Study Questions

1. How does Scripture's insistence on historical specificity strengthen the factual basis for Christian faith?
2. What does the connection between tribal census and later historical significance teach us about God's long-term planning?

Interlinear Text

מִבְּנֵי	יִשָּׁשַׁכַּר	תּוֹלְדֹתָם	לְמִשְׁפְּחֹתָם	לְבֵית
Of the children	of Issachar	by their generations	after their families	by the house
H1121	H3485	H8435	H4940	H1004
אֲבוֹתָם	בְּמִסְפָּר	שֵׁמֹת	מִבְּנֵי	עֶשְׂרִים
of their fathers	according to the number	of the names	Of the children	from twenty
H1	H4557	H8034	H1121	H6242
שָׁנָה	וְעַלְיוֹ	כָּל	יָצְאוּ	צָבָא:
years	and upward	all that were able to go forth	to war	
H8141	H4605	H3318	H6635	

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