

Numbers 1:30

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Of the children of Zebulun, 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

Zebulun's census demonstrates the continuation of God's covenant faithfulness even to tribes that would not feature prominently in Israel's political history. The tribe's later association with Nazareth and the Galilean ministry of Jesus shows that what seems insignificant in one era can become central in God's redemptive plan. This principle encourages believers to trust God's sovereignty over their circumstances, knowing He can use any situation for His glory.

Historical Context

Zebulun received coastal territory in lower Galilee, benefiting from maritime trade. Jacob's blessing promised that Zebulun would 'dwell at the haven of the sea' (Genesis 49:13), a prophecy fulfilled in their territorial inheritance.

Related Passages

1 John 4:8 — God is love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Study Questions

1. How does Zebulun's unexpected significance in Jesus's ministry encourage faith that God can use any believer or circumstance for His purposes?
2. What does this teach us about avoiding premature judgments about significance or insignificance in God's economy?

Interlinear Text

לְבָבָ יִתְהַלֵּךְ	לְמִשְׁפָחָתָם	לְבָבָ
Of the children	of Zebulun	by their generations
H1121	H2074	H8435
אַבְתָּתָם	שְׁמָתָה	מִבָּ
of their fathers	according to the number	of the names
H1	H4557	H8034
עָשָׂרִים	מִבָּ	מִבָּ
from twenty		
H6242		
שָׁנָה	וְאַז	צְבָא
years	and upward	all that were able to go forth
H8141	H4605	H3605
כִּילְעָמָד	וְאַז	לְכָבֵד
	H3318	H6635

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