

Numbers 1:35

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Those that were numbered of them, even of the tribe of Manasseh, were thirty and two thousand and two hundred.

Analysis

Manasseh's 32,200 fighting men made it one of the smaller tribes at this census, yet it would grow dramatically to 52,700 by the second census (Numbers 26:34), a 64% increase. This remarkable growth demonstrates God's blessing and providential care, showing that initial size or weakness does not limit God's ability to multiply and strengthen His people. The principle applies spiritually: what begins small in faith can grow mighty through God's grace.

Historical Context

Despite being initially smaller than Ephraim, Manasseh grew to become the largest tribe by the end of the wilderness period. This growth, combined with territorial inheritance on both sides of the Jordan, made Manasseh a significant tribe in Israel's history.

Related Passages

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Study Questions

1. How does Manasseh's dramatic population growth encourage faith in God's ability to multiply small beginnings?
2. What does this teach us about not despising the day of small things (Zechariah 4:10) in spiritual matters?

Interlinear Text

פָּקְדִים	לְמִתְהָרֵךְ	מִנְשָׁה	שְׁנָה
Those that were numbered	of them even of the tribe	of Manasseh	and two
H6485	H4294	H4519	H8147
וּמְאַתִּים	אֶלָף	וּשְׁלֹשׁ	יָמִים
were thirty	thousand	and two hundred	
H7970	H505	H3967	

Additional Cross-References

Numbers 26:34 (Parallel theme): These are the families of Manasseh, and those that were numbered of them, fifty and two thousand and seven hundred.

From KJV Study • kjvstudy.org