

Numbers 1:52

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the children of Israel shall pitch their tents, every man by his own camp, and every man by his own standard, throughout their hosts.

Analysis

Israel's camp organization with 'every man by his own camp, and every man by his own standard, throughout their hosts' demonstrates that order and structure characterize God's people. Each Israelite had an assigned place, preventing chaos and confusion. This orderly arrangement reflects God's nature as a God of order, not confusion (1 Corinthians 14:33). The church today should likewise maintain biblical order in worship and governance, with each member functioning in their proper role.

Historical Context

The 'standards' (Hebrew *degel*) were tribal banners or flags that identified each tribe's camp location. This military-style organization prepared Israel for conquest while also teaching them that God's presence required structured, reverent approach rather than casual disorder.

Related Passages

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. How does Israel's organized encampment challenge modern preferences for unstructured, spontaneous approaches to worship and church life?
2. What does each person having an assigned place teach us about the importance of recognizing our proper role in the body of Christ?

Interlinear Text

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|-------------------------|------------------|-----------|---------------------|------------------------|
| וְיַצְאָה | בְּנֵי | וְשָׁבָא | לְעַל | |
| shall pitch their tents | And the children | of Israel | and every man | H5921 |
| H2583 | H1121 | H3478 | H376 | |
| מִן־הַסְּדָרָה | וְעַל | וְדָגֶל | לִצְבָּאָתָם: | |
| by his own camp | and every man | H5921 | by his own standard | throughout their hosts |
| H4264 | H376 | H1714 | | H6635 |

Additional Cross-References

Numbers 2:2 (References Israel): Every man of the children of Israel shall pitch by his own standard, with the ensign of their father's house: far off about the tabernacle of the congregation shall they pitch.

Numbers 2:34 (References Israel): And the children of Israel did according to all that the LORD commanded Moses: so they pitched by their standards, and so they set forward, every one after their families, according to the house of their fathers.