

Numbers 1:6

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Of Simeon; Shelumiel the son of Zurishaddai.

Analysis

Shelumiel son of Zurishaddai represents Simeon, the tribe descended from Jacob's second son. Despite Simeon's violent past (Genesis 34) and Jacob's prophetic curse (Genesis 49:5-7), God's grace still included this tribe in the covenant community, demonstrating that divine election transcends human merit or demerit. The specific naming patterns reflect the Hebrew practice of preserving family identity and covenant continuity.

Historical Context

Simeon's tribe, though cursed by Jacob to be scattered in Israel, still received representation in the wilderness census and maintained tribal identity. This occurred around 1445 BC during the organization of Israel at Sinai.

Related Passages

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. How does God's inclusion of Simeon's tribe despite their ancestor's sin demonstrate the triumph of grace over judgment?

2. What encouragement does this provide for believers whose family history includes serious sin or failure?

Interlinear Text

לְשִׁמְעֹן	שְׁלֹמִיֵּאל	בֶּן	צוּרִישַׁדָּי:
Of Simeon	Shelumiel	the son	of Zurishaddai
H8095	H8017	H1121	H6701

Additional Cross-References

Numbers 7:36 (Parallel theme): On the fifth day Shelumiel the son of Zurishaddai, prince of the children of Simeon, did offer:

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