

Numbers 11:31

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And there went forth a wind from the LORD, and brought quails from the sea, and let them fall by the camp, as it were a day's journey on this side, and as it were a day's journey on the other side, round about the camp, and as it were two cubits high upon the face of the earth.

Analysis

God grants Israel's craving by sending quail blown in by wind from the sea, demonstrating His sovereign control over nature. Yet this gift becomes judgment—He gives them their desire but sends 'leanness into their soul' (Psalm 106:15). This illustrates the danger of insisting on our will over God's wisdom; sometimes God grants requests to reveal the poverty of our desires.

Historical Context

Quail migrate across the Mediterranean and Red Sea regions, flying low when exhausted. God timed their arrival precisely with Israel's complaint, using natural means for supernatural purposes, as He did with the plagues in Egypt.

Related Passages

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. Have you experienced God granting your request only to discover it wasn't what you truly needed?
2. How can you discern between godly desires and fleshly cravings in your prayers?

Interlinear Text

וַיַּרְא רַ�ת מֵאָת יְהוָה מִן־הָאֱלֹהִים
a wind And there went forth H853 from the LORD and brought quails
H7307 H5265 H3068 H1468 H7958

מִן־יָם עַל שִׁיטָּה בַּיּוֹם וְכֵן כֵּן
from the sea and let them fall H5921 by the camp journey
H4480 H3220 H5203 H4264 H1870

וְכֵן כֵּן כֵּן כֵּן
and as it were a day's on the other side journey and as it were a day's
H3117 H3541 H1870 H3117

כֵּן כֵּן כֵּן כֵּן כֵּן
on the other side round about by the camp and as it were two cubits
H3541 H5439 H4264 H520 H5921

בְּאַרְצָה גָּתִי
high upon the face of the earth
H6440 H776

Additional Cross-References

Exodus 16:13 (Parallel theme): And it came to pass, that at even the quails came up, and covered the camp: and in the morning the dew lay round about the host.

Psalms 105:40 (Parallel theme): The people asked, and he brought quails, and satisfied them with the bread of heaven.

