

Numbers 12:16

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And afterward the people removed from Hazereth, and pitched in the wilderness of Paran.

Analysis

The summary 'afterward the people removed from Hazereth, and pitched in the wilderness of Paran' shows normal life resuming after discipline. The Hebrew *nasa* (removed/journeyed) indicates that once restoration occurred, the community moved forward without dwelling on past offense. This teaches that restored sinners should be fully reintegrated, not perpetually marked by former sin. The church must not hold past confessed sins against restored members. Forward movement after discipline shows that God's purposes continue despite human failures.

Historical Context

Hazereth (meaning 'enclosures') was a wilderness station in the Sinai Peninsula. Paran would be the location for the tragic spy incident (Numbers 13). The transition from this chapter to the next shows the pattern of Numbers: cycles of sin, judgment, intercession, restoration, and continued journey. The wilderness journey tested Israel repeatedly, revealing the need for the New Covenant's internal transformation.

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Study Questions

1. How should churches reintegrate disciplined members without lingering suspicion?
2. What does moving forward after discipline teach about God's redemptive purposes?
3. How do we balance remembering lessons learned with not holding past sins against restored believers?

Interlinear Text

בְּמִדְבָּר רִיתְמָן וְמִחְצָר וְתַּחַת מִצְחָר וְתַּחַת נָסָע וְאַמְּרֵךְ
And afterward removed the people from Hazeroth and pitched in the wilderness
H310 H5265 H5971 H2698 H2583 H4057

פְּאָרָן:

of Paran

H6290

Additional Cross-References

Numbers 11:35 (Parallel theme): And the people journeyed from Kibroth-hattaavah unto Hazeroth; and abode at Hazeroth.

Numbers 33:18 (Parallel theme): And they departed from Hazeroth, and pitched in Rithmah.

Numbers 10:12 (Parallel theme): And the children of Israel took their journeys out of the wilderness of Sinai; and the cloud rested in the wilderness of Paran.