

Numbers 13:11

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Of the tribe of Joseph, namely, of the tribe of Manasseh, Gaddi the son of Susi.

Analysis

Joseph's tribe (through Manasseh) sent 'Gaddi the son of Susi.' The name 'Gaddi' means 'my fortune/troop' or 'fortunate,' yet his unbelief made him unfortunate - dying in wilderness without inheritance. Manasseh's blessing through Joseph promised fruitfulness - 'a fruitful bough by a well' (Gen 49:22). Yet Gaddi's fear prevented fruit-bearing. This illustrates that prophetic blessings require faith to actualize. God's promises don't operate automatically; they're inherited through faith and patience (Heb 6:12). Gaddi had every advantage - descended from Joseph whom Jacob richly blessed - yet personal unbelief nullified corporate promise. Privilege unused is privilege wasted.

Historical Context

Manasseh, Joseph's elder son, received Ephraim's blessing (Gen 48:13-20) but still became numerous and powerful. The tribe later inherited both east and west of Jordan, showing God's abundant blessing despite Jacob's cross-handed blessing favoring Ephraim. Yet Gaddi never experienced this prosperity, dying in wilderness. His tribe's eventual success proceeded without him - God's purposes aren't derailed by individual failures. This encourages believers: our unfaithfulness doesn't thwart God's ultimate plans, though we forfeit personal participation. It also warns: don't presume that corporate success guarantees individual blessing. Each person must personally trust and obey.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Study Questions

1. Are you actually walking in the blessings God has promised, or forfeiting them through unbelief?
2. How can you move from merely hearing about God's promises to actively possessing them through faith?

Interlinear Text

סֹעִדִּים בֶּן גָּדִי מִנְשָׁה לְמִתְּהִלָּה יְוָשָׁה לְמִתְּהִלָּה
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