Numbers 13:29

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The Amalekites dwell in the land of the south: and the Hittites, and the Jebusites, and the Amorites, dwell in the mountains: and the Canaanites dwell by the sea, and by the coast of Jordan.

Analysis

The spies reported three formidable peoples: Amalekites in the south, Hittites and others in the mountains, and Canaanites by the sea. This accurate intelligence identified real obstacles—yet faith in God's promise should have made these details irrelevant. Knowledge of enemies is valuable only when coupled with confidence in God's superior power.

Historical Context

The Amalekites had attacked Israel at Rephidim (Exodus 17:8-16), making them known enemies. The Hittites were a major empire of the ancient Near East. The Canaanites controlled coastal regions. These were not phantom threats but genuine military powers—which made God's promise to give Israel the land even more remarkable.

Related Passages

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

- 1. When does attention to obstacles become an excuse for disobedience?
- 2. How can you acknowledge real difficulties while trusting God's greater power?

Interlinear Text



Additional Cross-References

Numbers 14:43 (Parallel theme): For the Amalekites and the Canaanites are there before you, and ye shall fall by the sword: because ye are turned away from the LORD, therefore the LORD will not be with you.

Judges 6:3 (Parallel theme): And so it was, when Israel had sown, that the Midianites came up, and the Amalekites, and the children of the east, even they came up against them;

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