

Numbers 14:36

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the men, which Moses sent to search the land, who returned, and made all the congregation to murmur against him, by bringing up a slander upon the land,

Analysis

The ten faithless spies died 'by the plague before the LORD'—divine judgment fell immediately on the ringleaders of rebellion. This swift punishment demonstrated that leading God's people into unbelief carries severe consequences. Their influential position magnified both their responsibility and their guilt.

Historical Context

The plague (literally 'stroke') was a direct divine intervention, distinguishing these men's deaths from natural causes. While the whole generation would die in the wilderness over forty years, these leaders died immediately, their judgment serving as a warning to all Israel.

Related Passages

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. How does leadership responsibility affect accountability before God?
2. What warnings has God given about influencing others toward unbelief?

Interlinear Text

| | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------|----------------------------|-----------|-----------|--------------|------------|-----|
| הָאָרֶץ: | אֶת | לְתוֹר | מֹשֶׁה | שֶׁל | אֲשֶׁר | וְהָאָנָשׁ | יָם |
| | H853 | H8446 | H4872 | H7971 | H834 | H376 | |
| the land | to search | which Moses | sent | | | | |
| H776 | | | | | | | |
| וְעָדָה | כָּל | אֶת | עָלִיו | וְלֹא | וַיָּשׁוּ | בּוֹ | |
| | H3605 | H853 | H5921 | H3885 | H7725 | | |
| and made all the congregation | | | | to murmur | who returned | | |
| H5712 | | | | | | | |
| הָאָרֶץ: | עַל | דָּבָר | לְהוֹצִיא | יָא | | | |
| | H5921 | | | | | | |
| the land | a slander | against him by bringing up | | | | | |
| H776 | H1681 | H3318 | | | | | |

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