

Numbers 2:14

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then the tribe of Gad: and the captain of the sons of Gad shall be Eliasaph the son of Reuel.

Analysis

Gad's camp placement with Reuben and Simeon created a division of tribes that would later choose to settle east of the Jordan (Numbers 32). This early association may have facilitated their later joint decision, illustrating how geographical and social proximity influences shared choices. The principle applies to believers: our associations shape our decisions, making the choice of companions and communities crucial.

Historical Context

Gad's later choice to settle east of the Jordan alongside Reuben and half of Manasseh created ongoing questions about their full commitment to Israel's territorial unity. The eastern tribes' separation from the main body would create ongoing challenges throughout Israel's history.

Related Passages

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. How does the early association of tribes that later made questionable choices warn us about the formative power of our relationships?
2. What does this teach us about the importance of choosing companions who will encourage faithfulness rather than compromise?

Interlinear Text

וְיִמְתַּחַת	תְּגִידְלָה	וְיִשְׁרָאֵל	בְּנֵי	תְּגִידְלָה	וְיִשְׁרָאֵל
Then the tribe	of Gad	and the captain	of the sons	of Gad	shall be Eliasaph
H4294	H1410	H5387	H1121	H1410	H460
בְּנֵי	רְעוּאֵל:				
of the sons	of Reuel				
H1121	H7467				

Additional Cross-References

Numbers 1:14 (Parallel theme): Of Gad; Eliasaph the son of Deuel.

Numbers 7:42 (Parallel theme): On the sixth day Eliasaph the son of Deuel, prince of the children of Gad, offered:

Numbers 10:20 (Parallel theme): And over the host of the tribe of the children of Gad was Eliasaph the son of Deuel.

Numbers 7:47 (Parallel theme): And for a sacrifice of peace offerings, two oxen, five rams, five he goats, five lambs of the first year: this was the offering of Eliasaph the son of Deuel.