

Numbers 2:23

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And his host, and those that were numbered of them, were thirty and five thousand and four hundred.

Analysis

Benjamin's census total (35,400) made it one of the smaller tribes, yet this small size didn't prevent significant kingdom impact. The tribe would produce King Saul (Israel's first king) and the apostle Paul (Christianity's greatest missionary and theologian). This demonstrates God's pattern of choosing the weak and small to accomplish His mighty purposes, directing glory to Himself rather than human strength.

Historical Context

Benjamin's small size became proverbial ('little Benjamin,' Psalm 68:27), yet the tribe's fighting prowess exceeded its numbers. Benjamite warriors were renowned for ambidextrous sling and bow skills (Judges 20:16; 1 Chronicles 12:2).

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. How does Benjamin's small size paired with huge impact challenge assumptions about what God requires for significant kingdom service?
2. What does this teach us about God's power being perfected in weakness (2 Corinthians 12:9)?

Interlinear Text

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|--------------|------------------------------|-----------|---------------------|
| וּצָבָא וְ | וּפְקֻדֵּיהֶם | חֲמִשָּׁה | וּשְׁלֹשִׁים |
| And his host | and those that were numbered | and five | of them were thirty |
| H6635 | H6485 | H2568 | H7970 |
| מֵאֲוֹת: | וְאַרְבָּעַ | אֶלְפִּים | |
| thousand | and four | hundred | |
| H505 | H702 | H3967 | |

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