

Numbers 2:24

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

All that were numbered of the camp of Ephraim were an hundred thousand and eight thousand and an hundred, throughout their armies. And they shall go forward in the third rank.

Analysis

The summary total for Ephraim's division (108,100) made it the smallest of the four divisions, yet this positioning on the west maintained balanced military strength. The smallest division still contributed over 100,000 fighting men, demonstrating that even the least in God's kingdom possesses significant strength through divine blessing. No believer is insignificant; all contribute meaningfully to Christ's body.

Historical Context

Despite being the smallest division, Ephraim's group marched third in Israel's procession, maintaining strong military presence in the latter half of the column. This ensured protection from rear attacks and balanced strength throughout the march order.

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. How does the smallest division still numbering over 100,000 encourage believers who feel their contribution is insignificant?
2. What does this teach us about the cumulative power of many 'small' contributions in God's kingdom?

Interlinear Text

כָּל־
H3605 All that were numbered

בְּפִקְדֵּן יְמֵן
H6485 of the camp

לִמְנַגֵּן הַ
H4264 of Ephraim

אֶפְרַיִם
H669 and an hundred

וּמְאַה
H3967 thousand

אֶלָף יְמֵן
H505

וְשָׁלֹשׁ יְמֵן
H8083 and eight thousand

וּמְאַה אֶלָף יְמֵן
H505 and an hundred thousand

לִצְבָּאָתֶן
H3967 throughout their armies

וּשְׁמַנְיָת
H6635 in the third rank

וְשְׁלֹשׁ יְמֵן
H7992

וְיַעֲשֵׂה!

And they shall go forward

H5265

Additional Cross-References

Numbers 10:22 (Parallel theme): And the standard of the camp of the children of Ephraim set forward according to their armies: and over his host was Elishama the son of Ammihud.