

Numbers 2:25

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The standard of the camp of Dan shall be on the north side by their armies: and the captain of the children of Dan shall be Ahiezer the son of Ammishaddai.

Analysis

Dan's division camping on the north side completed the four-sided arrangement around the tabernacle. The northern position, while not carrying the prominence of east or the traditional honor of south, was nonetheless essential for complete protection. Every position in God's kingdom matters; no role is superfluous or unnecessary. Each member's faithful service contributes to the whole body's health and effectiveness.

Historical Context

Dan's northern division would march last in Israel's procession, forming the rearguard. This position protected against attacks from behind and gathered any stragglers or dropped equipment, serving crucial functions despite being last in march order.

Related Passages

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. How does Dan's northern (less prominent) position teach us that every role in God's kingdom is essential, regardless of visibility?
2. What does the rearguard function teach us about the importance of seemingly less glamorous but crucial service roles?

Interlinear Text

דָּגֵל	מַחֲנֵה ה	דָּן	צָפֹנָה	לְצִבְאוֹתָם
The standard	of the camp	of Dan	shall be on the north side	by their armies
H1714	H4264	H1835	H6828	H6635
וְנָשִׂיא	בְּנֵי	דָּן	אֲחִיעֶזֶר	בְּנֵי
and the captain	of the children	of Dan	shall be Ahiezer	of the children
H5387	H1121	H1835	H295	H1121
עַמִּישַׁדַּי:				
of Ammishaddai				
H5996				

Additional Cross-References

Numbers 1:12 (Parallel theme): Of Dan; Ahiezer the son of Ammishaddai.