

Numbers 2:29

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then the tribe of Naphtali: and the captain of the children of Naphtali shall be Ahira the son of Enan.

Analysis

Naphtali's camp placement in Dan's division positioned this tribe for later significance in Jesus's Galilean ministry. The region that seemed peripheral in Moses's day would become central when Christ made Capernaum (in Naphtali's territory) His ministry headquarters. This demonstrates God's ability to transform what appears marginal into what becomes central, encouraging believers in seemingly insignificant positions.

Historical Context

Naphtali's later territory around the Sea of Galilee would witness much of Jesus's public ministry, including numerous miracles, parables, and the calling of most apostles. What was Israel's northern frontier became the gospel's initial epicenter.

Related Passages

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. How does Naphtali's transformation from border tribe to center of Jesus's ministry encourage faith that God can use any position or circumstance for His glory?
2. What does this teach us about avoiding premature judgments about whether our current position is significant or peripheral in God's plan?

Interlinear Text

וַיֵּט ה	נַפְתָּלִי י	וְנָשִׂיא	בְּנֵי	נַפְתָּלִי י
Then the tribe	of Naphtali	and the captain	of the children	of Naphtali
H4294	H5321	H5387	H1121	H5321
אֶחֱיָרָע	בְּנֵי	עֵינָן:		
shall be Ahira	of the children	of Enan		
H299	H1121	H5881		

Additional Cross-References

Numbers 1:15 (Parallel theme): Of Naphtali; Ahira the son of Enan.
