

Numbers 22:1

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the children of Israel set forward, and pitched in the plains of Moab on this side Jordan by Jericho.

Analysis

Israel camped 'in the plains of Moab on this side Jordan by Jericho,' poised to enter Canaan after 40 years' wandering. This positioning alarmed Moab's king Balak, who witnessed Israel's recent victories. The phrase 'on this side Jordan' (east bank) indicated they stood at Canaan's threshold, setting the stage for Balaam's narrative—when military power failed, spiritual warfare through curse was attempted.

Historical Context

The plains of Moab, opposite Jericho, became Israel's final wilderness encampment before entering Canaan. From here they would later cross Jordan into the Promised Land, making this location strategically and spiritually significant.

Related Passages

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. How does positioning yourself at the threshold of God's promises invite spiritual opposition?

2. What spiritual warfare intensifies when you're close to receiving God's promised blessings?

Interlinear Text

וַיִּסַּע וְ	בְנֵי י	יִשְׂרָאֵל	וַחֲנוּ	בְּעֶרְבֹת	מֹאָב
set forward	And the children	of Israel	and pitched	in the plains	of Moab
H5265	H1121	H3478	H2583	H6160	H4124
מֵעַבֵּר	לְיַרְדֵּן	יֶרִיחוֹ			
on this side	Jordan	by Jericho			
H5676	H3383	H3405			

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