

Numbers 25:6

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And, behold, one of the children of Israel came and brought unto his brethren a Midianitish woman in the sight of Moses, and in the sight of all the congregation of the children of Israel, who were weeping before the door of the tabernacle of the congregation.

Analysis

An Israelite brazenly brought a Midianite woman to his family 'in the sight of Moses, and... all the congregation' while they mourned. This audacious sin during corporate repentance reveals hardness of heart and contempt for God's judgment. Some persist in rebellion even when warned by others' punishment. Phinehas's zealous response (verse 7-8) demonstrated that tolerating such defiance endangers everyone.

Historical Context

This incident occurred at the tabernacle door during communal weeping over the plague (verse 8). The man's action constituted deliberate provocation—not hidden sin but open defiance. His social position (later identified as a prince, verse 14) made his example especially dangerous.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Study Questions

1. What does it mean to be 'zealous' for God's honor in contemporary context?
2. How do you respond to open, defiant sin in the community of faith?

Interlinear Text

וְהִנֵּה הַ	אִישׁ	בְּנֵי	יִשְׂרָאֵל ל	בָּ א	וַיָּבֹא ב	אֵל
H2009	And behold one	of the children	of Israel	came	and brought	H413
	H376	H1121	H3478	H935	H7126	
אֶחָיו	אֶת	הַמִּדְיָנִי יֵת	וּלְעֵינַי י	מֹשֶׁה ה		
unto his brethren	H853	a Midianitish woman	and in the sight	of Moses		
H251		H4084	H5869	H4872		
וּלְעֵינַי י	כָּל	עַד ת	בְּנֵי	יִשְׂרָאֵל ל	וְהָמָה	
and in the sight	H3605	of all the congregation	of the children	of Israel	H1992	
H5869		H5712	H1121	H3478		
בְּכִי יִם	פֶּתַח	אֶת הַל	מוֹעֵד:			
who were weeping	before the door	of the tabernacle	of the congregation			
H1058	H6607	H168	H4150			

Additional Cross-References

Joel 2:17 (Parallel theme): Let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep between the porch and the altar, and let them say, Spare thy people, O LORD, and give not thine heritage to reproach, that the heathen should rule over them: wherefore should they say among the people, Where is their God?

Numbers 22:4 (Parallel theme): And Moab said unto the elders of Midian, Now shall this company lick up all that are round about us, as the ox licketh up the grass of the field. And Balak the son of Zippor was king of the Moabites at that time.