

# Numbers 26:42

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

These are the sons of Dan after their families: of Shuham, the family of the Shuhamites. These are the families of Dan after their families.

## Analysis

**Of Shuham, the family of the Shuhamites**—Dan's census records only one surviving family line (נחש), though Genesis 46:23 mentions Hushim. Either Shuham and Hushim are variant names for the same son, or other sons died without descendants. Dan's single clan grew remarkably: 64,400 men, making it the second-largest tribe. From one seed came a multitude—God's blessing doesn't depend on multiple starting points.

The repetition **These are the families of Dan after their families** (וְאֵלֶּה הַבְּנֵי דָן אַחֲרֵי בְּרִייתָם) emphasizes tribal completeness despite minimal subdivision. Quality over quantity in lineages: one faithful line can become a mighty nation.

## Historical Context

Dan descended from Rachel's handmaid Bilhah. Though Rachel's direct son Joseph produced two tribes (Ephraim and Manasseh), her handmaid's son produced the second-largest single tribe. This census occurred 38 years after the first (Numbers 1), where Dan numbered 62,700—an increase of 1,700 despite wilderness judgments.

## Related Passages

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**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

**James 2:17** — Faith and works

**1 John 4:8** — God is love

**1 Corinthians 13:4** — Characteristics of love

## Study Questions

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1. How does Dan's growth from one family line demonstrate that God measures blessing by faithfulness, not by initial advantages?
2. What does the preservation of single lineages teach about God's ability to multiply the remnant?
3. How might Dan's increase despite limited family structure encourage those from small or broken family backgrounds?

## Interlinear Text

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אֵלֶּה	בְּנֵי	דָּן	לְמִשְׁפְּחֹתָם:	לְשׁוּחַם
H428	<b>These are the sons</b>	<b>of Dan</b>	<b>These are the families</b>	<b>of Shuham</b>
	H1121	H1835	H4940	H7748
לְמִשְׁפְּחֹתָם:	הַשְּׁוּחִימִי	אֵלֶּה	לְמִשְׁפְּחֹתָם:	דָּן
<b>These are the families</b>	<b>of the Shuhamites</b>	H428	<b>These are the families</b>	<b>of Dan</b>
H4940	H7749		H4940	H1835
לְמִשְׁפְּחֹתָם:				
<b>These are the families</b>				
H4940				

## Additional Cross-References

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**Genesis 46:23** (Parallel theme): And the sons of Dan; Hushim.

