

# Numbers 26:56

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

According to the lot shall the possession thereof be divided  
between many and few.

## Analysis

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The summary statement—'according to the lot shall the possession thereof be divided'—combines divine sovereignty (lot) with fair distribution (according to numbers). The two principles work together: God determines the what and where (by lot), while proportionality ensures the how much (by census). This dual emphasis teaches that God's sovereignty doesn't negate justice, and justice doesn't limit sovereignty. The Reformed understanding that God's decrees are both absolute and wise is illustrated—He ordains what He wills, and what He wills is just.

## Historical Context

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The actual land division, recorded in Joshua, demonstrated this principle in practice. Each tribe's territory was determined by lot, then boundaries were set according to population needs. The process combined divine initiative with human administration, showing that God works through ordained means to accomplish His purposes.

## Related Passages

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**Psalms 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

## Study Questions

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1. How do divine sovereignty and proportional justice coexist in God's providence?
2. What does the combination of lot and census teach about God's methods?
3. In what ways does God's sovereignty expressed through just means encourage trust in His character?

## Interlinear Text

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על	פִּי	הַגּוֹךְ ל	תְּחִלָּה ק	נְחִלָּת ו	בֵּין
H5921	According	to the lot	thereof be divided	shall the possession	H996
	H6310	H1486	H2505	H5159	
ב	לְמַעַט:				
between many	and few				
H7227	H4592				