

Numbers 27:9

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And if he have no daughter, then ye shall give his inheritance unto his brethren.

Analysis

The inheritance law continues: 'if he have no daughter, then ye shall give his inheritance unto his brethren.' The Hebrew achav (his brothers) extends inheritance to lateral family when vertical descent fails. This comprehensive legislation covered all possibilities, ensuring no situation left a family without inheritance. The legal cascade—sons, daughters, brothers, uncles, nearest kinsman (verses 8-11)—demonstrates divine wisdom in preserving covenant inheritance. This finds ultimate fulfillment in Christ as our kinsman-redeemer who inherits all things and shares His inheritance with His brothers (Hebrews 2:11-12).

Historical Context

The kinsman-redeemer system (go'el) undergirded Israel's social structure, ensuring vulnerable individuals had family advocates. This system appears in Ruth (where Boaz redeems Ruth and Naomi's inheritance) and Job (who affirmed his living Redeemer). The system pictured Christ who became our kinsman through incarnation to redeem us and restore our lost inheritance.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Study Questions

1. How does the kinsman-redeemer system picture Christ's redemptive work?
2. What does comprehensive legal provision for all circumstances teach about divine wisdom?
3. How should we think about Christ sharing His inheritance with us?

Interlinear Text

וְאֵלֶּא יְאִמְרֶת

H518

H369

H0

לֹא בְּ

H1323

תְּנַתֶּן

H5414

אֶת

H853

And if he have no daughter then ye shall give

תְּמִלְתָּה וְ

his inheritance unto his brethren

H5159

H251

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