

# Numbers 32:30

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But if they will not pass over with you armed, they shall have possessions among you in the land of Canaan.

## Analysis

---

**But if they will not pass over with you armed, they shall have possessions among you in the land of Canaan**—The alternative consequence: failure to fulfill military obligations meant forfeiting Transjordan and receiving standard Canaan allotments with other tribes. The phrase **shall have possessions among you** (מִצְרָעָה בְּתוּקְהֶם veno'achazu betokhekhem) indicates they'd receive typical tribal inheritances west of Jordan like other tribes.

This provision prevented selective obedience—Reuben and Gad couldn't claim land without fulfilling service. The consequence wasn't punishment (losing all inheritance) but merely standard treatment (Canaan allotment like other tribes). God's economy rewards faithful service beyond baseline provision: 'Well done, good and faithful servant... I will make you ruler over many things' (Matthew 25:21)—extraordinary blessing requires extraordinary faithfulness.

## Historical Context

---

The provision ensured Reuben and Gad wouldn't be landless if they failed their commitment—they'd simply receive standard western Canaan allotments. This balanced accountability (enforcing consequences) with provision (ensuring basic inheritance). Ancient Near Eastern treaties typically imposed harsher penalties for violation; Israel's covenant grace provided consequences that corrected rather than destroyed.

## Related Passages

---

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

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

## Study Questions

---

1. How does the consequence (standard Canaan allotment vs. preferred Gilead) demonstrate grace that corrects disobedience without destroying the disobedient?
2. What does the principle of conditional extraordinary blessing (Gilead) beyond guaranteed baseline provision (Canaan) teach about rewards for faithful service?
3. How can discipline in spiritual communities balance accountability (real consequences) with grace (continued membership and provision)?

## Interlinear Text

---

אַתָּה אָמַר לֵאמֹר יִעַבֶּר אֶת־  
H518 H3808 But if they will not pass over

H5674

כַּלּוּצִים יְמִינְךָ  
H2502

H854

אַתָּה אָמַר לֵאמֹר בְּתַחְכָּמָה  
H270 H8432 H776 H3667

בְּאֶצְבָּעָן: בְּאֶצְבָּעָן: בְּאֶצְבָּעָן: בְּאֶצְבָּעָן:  
they shall have possessions among you in the land of Canaan

H270 H8432 H776 H3667

---

From KJV Study • kjvstudy.org