

Numbers 32:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And wherefore discourage ye the heart of the children of Israel from going over into the land which the LORD hath given them?

Analysis

Moses confronted them: 'wherefore discourage ye the heart of the children of Israel from going over into the land which the LORD hath given them?' Their choice would demoralize others, just as the unfaithful spies had. Individual decisions affect the whole community; refusing God's best not only harms you but discourages others from pursuing it.

Historical Context

Moses' immediate recognition of this request's danger demonstrated wisdom learned through painful experience. The spy narrative was deeply embedded in Israel's consciousness as the defining failure. Any action recalling that sin required strong confrontation. Leaders must identify and oppose attitudes that could spread discouragement.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. How do your choices encourage or discourage others in pursuing God's promises?
2. What responsibility do you bear for the effect your decisions have on community faith?

Interlinear Text

וְלָמָּה	תְּנוּא וְ	אֶת	לֵב	בְּנֵי יִ	יִשְׂרָאֵל	
H4100	And wherefore discourage ye	H853	the heart	of the children	of Israel	
	H5106		H3820	H1121	H3478	
מֵעֲבֹר	אֶל	הָאָרֶץ	אֲשֶׁר	נָתַן	לָהֶם	יְהוָה:
from going over	H413	into the land	H834	hath given	H0	which the LORD
H5674		H776		H5414		H3068

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