

Numbers 33:29

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And they went from Mithcah, and pitched in Hashmonah.

Analysis

They went from Mithcah, and pitched in Hashmonah—The Hebrew מִתְּקָה (Mithqah, 'sweetness') to חֲשֹׁמֶנָה (Hashmōnāh, possibly 'fruitful'). These wilderness stations between Sinai and Kadesh represent the interim period of Israel's wandering, when they were neither at the mountain of God nor yet approaching Canaan.

The bare recitation of movement verbs—**went** (נָסַע, nasa') and **pitched** (חָנָה, chanah)—emphasizes the transient nature of pilgrimage. God's people lived in tents, not cities, learning dependence on divine provision. Hebrews 11:13-16 celebrates this nomadic faith: 'strangers and pilgrims on the earth.'

Historical Context

This itinerary section (vv. 16-36) covers the 38 years of wandering between departing Sinai and returning to Kadesh. Many of these place names appear nowhere else in Scripture, suggesting the original audience knew the geography intimately even though later generations lost the specific locations.

Related Passages

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. How does the repetitive nature of these journey notices mirror seasons of 'waiting' in your spiritual life?
2. What does Israel's nomadic existence teach about holding earthly possessions lightly?

Interlinear Text

וַיֵּצֵאוּ	מִמִּתְכָּה ה	וַיִּדְּגוּ ו	בְּחֶשְׁמוֹנָה:
And they went	from Mithcah	and pitched	in Hashmonah
H5265	H4989	H2583	H2832

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