

Numbers 33:30

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And they departed from Hashmonah, and encamped at Moseroth.

Analysis

Departed from Hashmonah, and encamped at Moseroth (הַשְׁמֹנָה, Mōsērōth, 'bonds' or 'discipline'). Deuteronomy 10:6 identifies Mosera (singular form) as Aaron's burial site in some textual traditions, though verse 38 here places his death at Mount Hor.

The name 'bonds' may reflect the binding discipline of wilderness life—Israel was constrained to follow the cloud by day and pillar of fire by night (9:15-23). This enforced obedience trained a rebellious people in covenant loyalty. The New Testament echoes this pedagogy: 'Whom the Lord loves he chastens' (Hebrews 12:6).

Historical Context

The wilderness period functioned as Israel's theological seminary, where they learned to live by faith (Deuteronomy 8:2-3). The multiple movements tested their trust in God's provision and timing, preparing them for conquest.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Study Questions

1. How has God used 'wilderness' seasons of constraint to discipline and refine your faith?
2. What does Moseroth ('bonds') suggest about the paradox that divine discipline is actually love?

Interlinear Text

וַיַּעֲזַב אֶת־
And they departed from Hashmonah and encamped at Moseroth
H5265 H2832 H2583 H4149

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