

Numbers 34:1

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

Analysis

The LORD's instruction to Moses about Canaan's boundaries demonstrates that God precisely defines His people's inheritance. The borders are not arbitrary or negotiable but divinely prescribed. This teaches that God's gifts come with defined boundaries—we possess what He gives, neither less nor more. The Reformed understanding that God's sovereignty includes precise determination of our circumstances and callings is illustrated. Our boundaries are set by divine wisdom, not human ambition.

Historical Context

The boundaries described encompass the land from Egypt's border to Lebanon, from the Mediterranean to the Jordan. These borders defined the Promised Land that God swore to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. The precise description meant future generations could know exactly what territory belonged to Israel by divine right. The boundaries also distinguished Israel's inheritance from that of Edom, Moab, and Ammon (also descended from Abraham's family).

Related Passages

1 John 4:8 — God is love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Study Questions

1. What does God's precise definition of boundaries teach about contentment with His provision?
2. How should recognition that our circumstances are divinely ordained affect our attitude?
3. In what ways does knowing our boundaries help us faithfully steward what God has given?

Interlinear Text

לִאְמֹר: מֵשֶׁה אֶל יְהוָה הָיָה רֹאשׁ בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל
spake And the LORD unto Moses saying
H1696 H3068 H413 H4872 H559

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