

Numbers 34:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Command the children of Israel, and say unto them, When ye come into the land of Canaan; (this is the land that shall fall unto you for an inheritance, even the land of Canaan with the coasts thereof:)

Analysis

God precisely defines Canaan's borders before Israel crosses Jordan, demonstrating His sovereign gift of specific territory. The phrase 'This is the land that shall fall unto you for an inheritance' uses the Hebrew 'naphal' (fall), indicating distribution by lot under divine providence. God's detailed geographical boundaries show He cares about specifics, not just generalities. The land inheritance foreshadows believers' eternal inheritance - specific, certain, and sovereignly granted (1 Pet 1:4, Eph 1:11). The borders extended beyond what Israel fully possessed, pointing to promises yet unfulfilled until Messiah's kingdom (Gen 15:18-21).

Historical Context

Given on Moab's plains as Israel prepared to enter Canaan, these boundaries defined the land originally promised to Abraham (Gen 15:18). The borders extended from the wilderness of Zin southward to Lebanon northward, from the Mediterranean westward to beyond Jordan eastward. Historical Israel never fully possessed all this territory, with complete fulfillment awaiting the Messianic kingdom (Ezek 47:13-20 provides similar boundaries for millennial distribution). Archaeological evidence confirms these geographical markers existed in ancient times.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. How does God's specific promises give you confidence that He has determined the exact boundaries of your life's calling?
2. Are you trusting God's sovereign 'lot' for your life, or striving for territory He hasn't assigned?

Interlinear Text

Command	H6680	אַתָּה H853	אֶת the children H1121	בְּנֵי of Israel H3478	יִשְׂרָאֵל and say H559	אָמַר H413	מִ H3588	אָמַר H859
unto them	H935	When ye come H413	בָּאִם this is the land H776	אֵל of Canaan H3667	כִּי עַל H2063	זֶה אַתָּה this is the land H776	אֵל H776	זֶה אַתָּה this is the land H776
that shall fall	H834	תַּפְאֵל H5307	אֲשֶׁר H0	לְכֶם unto you for an inheritance H5159	בְּנַחַל הָ this is the land H776	אֵל H776	זֶה אַתָּה this is the land H776	זֶה אַתָּה this is the land H776

לְגַבְלַתִּים: כִּי עַל
with the coasts
H1367

of Canaan
H3667

Additional Cross-References

Genesis 17:8 (Parallel theme): And I will give unto thee, and to thy seed after thee, the land wherein thou art a stranger, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession; and I will be their God.

Psalms 105:11 (Parallel theme): Saying, Unto thee will I give the land of Canaan,
the lot of your inheritance:

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