

Psalm 106:34

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

They did not destroy the nations, concerning whom the LORD commanded them:

Analysis

This verse recounts Israel's failure to complete the conquest of Canaan. 'They did not destroy the nations, concerning whom the LORD commanded them' shows direct disobedience. God had commanded total destruction (herem) of Canaanite nations to prevent religious contamination (Deuteronomy 7:1-5; 20:16-18). Israel's failure to obey this difficult command stemmed from compassion, pragmatism, or incomplete trust in God's wisdom. This partial obedience was complete disobedience—it's not obedience if we only do what's comfortable or convenient. The failure to remove pagan nations became Israel's greatest ongoing temptation throughout the judges and monarchy periods.

Historical Context

Judges 1-2 records Israel's incomplete conquest. Tribe after tribe failed to drive out inhabitants, allowing Canaanites to dwell among them. Judges 2:1-3 records the Angel of the LORD rebuking them: 'I said, I will never break my covenant with you...but ye have not obeyed my voice...they shall be as thorns in your sides, and their gods shall be a snare unto you.' This prophecy was fulfilled throughout Judges and Kings as Canaanite religions continually led Israel into idolatry.

Related Passages

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. How is partial obedience actually disobedience?
2. What areas of 'incomplete conquest' in the Christian life lead to ongoing spiritual problems?
3. How does failure to fully obey God's commands regarding sin create future snares?

Interlinear Text

לֹא	הַשְׁמִידוּ	אַתָּה	קָעַם יְמֵינֶךָ	אָשֶׁר	אָמַר
H3808	They did not destroy	H853	the nations	H834	commanded
	H8045		H5971		H559
	יְהִי הָ	לְקָם:			
		H1992			
	concerning whom the LORD				
	H3068				

Additional Cross-References

Deuteronomy 7:16 (References Lord): And thou shalt consume all the people which the LORD thy God shall deliver thee; thine eye shall have no pity upon them: neither shalt thou serve their gods; for that will be a snare unto thee.

Deuteronomy 7:2 (References Lord): And when the LORD thy God shall deliver them before thee; thou shalt smite them, and utterly destroy them; thou shalt make no covenant with them, nor shew mercy unto them:

Judges 1:21 (Parallel theme): And the children of Benjamin did not drive out the Jebusites that inhabited Jerusalem; but the Jebusites dwell with the children of Benjamin in Jerusalem unto this day.