

Psalms 108:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

God hath spoken in his holiness; I will rejoice, I will divide
Shechem, and mete out the valley of Succoth.

Analysis

God hath spoken in his holiness (אֱלֹהִים דִּבֶּר בְּקֹדֶשׁוֹ, Elohim dibber bekodsho)—God's speech originates from His kodesh (holiness, set-apartness). This may mean 'in His sanctuary' (temple/heaven) or 'by His holiness' (swearing by His own character). Either way, God's word carries absolute authority and certainty.

I will rejoice, I will divide Shechem, and mete out the valley of Succoth (אֶעֱלֶזָּה אַחַלֶּלְכָּה שֵׁכֶם, e'elozah achallekah Shekhem)—e'elozah (I will exult, rejoice triumphantly) precedes military language. Achallekah (I will divide, apportion) describes conquest and land distribution. Shechem (west of Jordan) and Succoth (east of Jordan) represent territories God promised Israel.

David grounds his confidence in battle not on military strength but on God's spoken promise. God said these lands belong to Israel—therefore David will rejoice even before victory is complete. Faith believes God's word more than present circumstances (Romans 4:17-21).

Historical Context

This verse quotes Psalm 60:6, written after defeats in battle (Psalm 60 title). Shechem was central Canaan's heartland; Succoth was Transjordan territory. God's ancient promise to Abraham (Genesis 12:7) undergirds David's confidence in reconquest.

Related Passages

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. How does God's 'speaking in holiness' make His promises more certain than physical evidence?
2. What territories in your life need to be claimed based on God's spoken word rather than current possession?
3. Can you 'rejoice' in God's promises before seeing their fulfillment, like David rejoicing before dividing Shechem?

Interlinear Text

אֱלֹהֵי יִם	דָּבַר	בְּקִדְשׁוֹ	אֶעְלֶה זֶה	אֶחְלֶק הַ	שֶׁכֶּם
God	hath spoken	in his holiness	I will rejoice	I will divide	Shechem
H430	H1696	H6944	H5937	H2505	H7927
וְעַתָּה	סֹכֵךְ	אֶמְדֹּד:			
the valley	of Succoth	and mete out			
H6010	H5523	H4058			

Additional Cross-References

1 Peter 1:8 (Parallel theme): Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory: