

Psalms 44:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

How thou didst drive out the heathen with thy hand, and
plantedst them; how thou didst afflict the people, and cast
them out.

Analysis

God 'didst drive out the heathen' and 'planted' Israel, 'afflicted the people' (Canaanites) and 'cast them out.' The imagery of planting suggests Israel as God's vineyard, cultivated and cared for. The verbs emphasize God's direct action--conquest was not human achievement but divine intervention.

Historical Context

The conquest of Canaan was interpreted as God's holy war, driving out nations judged for centuries of accumulated wickedness (Genesis 15:16). Israel was the instrument of divine judgment and the recipient of divine promise.

Related Passages

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. How does understanding God's initiative in Israel's establishment affect our view of His sovereignty?
2. What does the metaphor of God 'planting' His people suggest about His ongoing care?

Interlinear Text

אֶת־הַ	יָדְךָ	גוֹיִם	הַ וְרָשָׁתָּהּ	וַתִּטְעַם
H859	with thy hand	the heathen	How thou didst drive out	and plantedst
	H3027	H1471	H3423	H5193
פָּרַע	לְ אֶמְלֵךְ	וַתַּשְׁלִיחֵם:		
them how thou didst afflict	the people	and cast them out		
H7489	H3816	H7971		

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 78:55 (Parallel theme): He cast out the heathen also before them, and divided them an inheritance by line, and made the tribes of Israel to dwell in their tents.

Exodus 15:17 (Parallel theme): Thou shalt bring them in, and plant them in the mountain of thine inheritance, in the place, O LORD, which thou hast made for thee to dwell in, in the Sanctuary, O Lord, which thy hands have established.