

Psalms 60:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Gilead is mine, and Manasseh is mine; Ephraim also is the strength of mine head; Judah is my lawgiver;

Analysis

The declaration of possession over Gilead, Manasseh, Ephraim, and Judah indicates God's sovereignty over tribal territories. Ephraim as 'strength of mine head' (helmet) and Judah as 'lawgiver' (scepter) assign functional roles in the kingdom. This anticipates Christ's ultimate reign through Judah's lineage, demonstrating God's sovereign orchestration of tribal roles in redemptive history.

Historical Context

These territories represent Israel's heartland. Ephraim was the northern kingdom's dominant tribe, while Judah was David's own tribe and source of Messianic lineage. God's assignment of roles transcends current political divisions.

Related Passages

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. How does God's sovereign distribution of roles and gifts in His kingdom affect your contentment with your calling?
2. What does the different function of tribes teach about unity in diversity within God's people?

Interlinear Text

י H0	גִּלְעָד H1568	וְלִי H0	מִנְשֵׁה H4519	אֶפְרַיִם H669	וְזֶה H4581
	Gilead		is mine and Manasseh	is mine Ephraim	also is the strength
י H7218	רֹאשׁ H7218	הַיְּהוּדָה H3063	מְחַקְקִי H2710		
	of mine head	Judah	is my lawgiver		

Additional Cross-References

Genesis 49:10 (Word): The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto him shall the gathering of the people be.

Deuteronomy 33:17 (Parallel theme): His glory is like the firstling of his bullock, and his horns are like the horns of unicorns: with them he shall push the people together to the ends of the earth: and they are the ten thousands of Ephraim, and they are the thousands of Manasseh.

Joshua 13:31 (Parallel theme): And half Gilead, and Ashtaroth, and Edrei, cities of the kingdom of Og in Bashan, were pertaining unto the children of Machir the son of Manasseh, even to the one half of the children of Machir by their families.

1 Chronicles 12:37 (Parallel theme): And on the other side of Jordan, of the Reubenites, and the Gadites, and of the half tribe of Manasseh, with all manner of instruments of war for the battle, an hundred and twenty thousand.

1 Chronicles 12:19 (Parallel theme): And there fell some of Manasseh to David, when he came with the Philistines against Saul to battle: but they helped them not: for the lords of the Philistines upon advisement sent him away, saying, He will fall to his master Saul to the jeopardy of our heads.

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