

"FROM DAN UNTIL BEERSHEBA"

CULTURAL INSIGHT

The phrase "from Dan until Beersheba" is a merism, a rhetorical term in which two contrasting parts of the larger whole are used to stand in for the entire object. An example in English is "from A to Z," meaning encompassing everything. Dan was a city in the northern part of the Holy Land, while Beersheba was in the southern-most portion. "From Dan until Beersheba" therefore means something like "north to south" or "the entire Holy Land." Most of the examples of this phrase are found in 1 and 2 Samuel.

Related verses

Judges 20:1

1 Samuel 3:20

2 Samuel 3:10

2 Samuel 17:11

2 Samuel 24:2, 14

1 Kings 4:25

2 Chronicles 30:5

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