

Acts 7:21

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And when he was cast out, Pharaoh's daughter took him up, and nourished him for her own son.

Analysis

Moses being 'cast out' (exposed to die) seems like covenant failure, yet God providentially orchestrated his adoption by Pharaoh's daughter. What appeared as abandonment became the means of preservation and education in Egypt's palace. God's sovereignty transforms apparent defeats into victories—Moses' adoption positioned him to lead Israel with Egyptian court training. Divine providence often works through unexpected human agents, even pagan princesses.

Historical Context

Pharaoh's daughter's daily bathing in the Nile (Exodus 2:5) positioned her to discover Moses. Her compassion overcame her father's genocidal decree, risking his displeasure. Egyptian princesses held significant social status and could adopt children. Moses' forty years in Pharaoh's house (Acts 7:23) gave him education 'in all the wisdom of the Egyptians' (v. 22).

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. How does God's use of Pharaoh's daughter to preserve Moses demonstrate His sovereignty over even enemy actions?
2. What does Moses' palace upbringing teach us about God's preparation of His servants through unexpected means?

Interlinear Text

ἐκτεθέντα	δὲ	αὐτὸν	ἀνείλετο	αὐτὸν	ἥ	θυγάτηρ
when he was cast out	And	him	took	him	G3588	daughter
G1620	G1161	G846	G337	G846		G2364
Φαραὼ	καὶ	ἀνεθρέψατο	αὐτὸν	έσωτῇ	εἰς	υἱόν
Pharaoh's	and	nourished	him	her own	for	son
G5328	G2532	G397	G846	G1438	G1519	G5207

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