

Deuteronomy 11:4

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And what he did unto the army of Egypt, unto their horses, and to their chariots; how he made the water of the Red sea to overflow them as they pursued after you, and how the LORD hath destroyed them unto this day;

Analysis

The destruction of Pharaoh's army at the Red Sea (Yam Suph, יָם-סֻף) represents the definitive defeat of Israel's oppressors. The phrase 'made the water of the Red sea to overflow them' uses vivid Hebrew imagery of waters covering and destroying. This wasn't drowning by misadventure but divine execution—Yahweh wielded the sea as His weapon. The concluding 'the LORD hath destroyed them unto this day' emphasizes the permanent nature of Egypt's defeat—they never recovered enough military strength to threaten Israel again. This complete victory demonstrates God's ability to utterly destroy His people's enemies, providing assurance for future conflicts.

Historical Context

Exodus 14-15 records this climactic event. Archaeological evidence shows Egypt's 18th-19th dynasty military power declined significantly after this period, never again dominating Canaan as before. The Red Sea victory became Israel's defining salvation event, referenced throughout Scripture as proof of God's redemptive power (Psalms 78, 106, 136; Isaiah 43:16-17). It became the Old Testament parallel to Christ's resurrection—the decisive victory over the enemy.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. How does the finality of God's victory over our spiritual enemies (sin, death, Satan) mirror Egypt's permanent defeat?
2. What 'Red Sea moments' in your spiritual journey have witnessed God's decisive deliverance?
3. Why is it important to remember that God doesn't just weaken enemies but destroys them completely?

Interlinear Text

לְסֹסֶת וְיָמָן מִצְרַיִם עַשְׂתָּה יְלִלְתָּה רַאשְׁתָּה
H834 And what he did H6213 unto the army H2428 of Egypt H4714 unto their horses H5483

מִתְּבָרְכָה וְלַרְכָבָה אֶת הַצְּבָא יְמָנָה וְמִתְּבָרְכָה
and to their chariots H7393 to overflow H834 how he made the water H853 sea H4325 H3220

וְיִאֲבֹד מִתְּבָרְכָה אַחֲרֵיכֶם בְּגַדְפָּתָם סֹסֶת
of the Red H5921 them H6440 as they pursued H7291 after H310 hath destroyed H6

בְּזַהֲהָה כִּי וּמְעַד יְהִי הַיּוֹם
you and how the LORD H3068 unto this day H5704 them H3117 H2088

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 106:11 (Parallel theme): And the waters covered their enemies: there was not one of them left.

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