

Deuteronomy 28:60

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Moreover he will bring upon thee all the diseases of Egypt, which thou wast afraid of; and they shall cleave unto thee.

Analysis

Moreover he will bring upon thee all the diseases of Egypt, which thou wast afraid of—the Hebrew *kol-madwēh miṣrayim* ('every disease of Egypt') refers both to the ten plagues and to the endemic diseases Israel witnessed in Egypt. **And they shall cleave unto thee** (וְתִדְבַּק עֲלָךְ, *wədābəqū bāk*)—the verb 'cleave' is used positively for marriage (Genesis 2:24) and covenant loyalty (Deuteronomy 10:20), but here for clinging disease.

This reverses the Exodus promise in Exodus 15:26: 'I will put none of these diseases upon thee.' What God prevented, He will now inflict. The 'diseases of Egypt' Israel 'feared' would now become their punishment. The verb 'cleave' suggests permanence—these diseases won't be temporary like Egypt's plagues but chronic. This includes leprosy, blindness, and other afflictions prevalent in Egypt.

Historical Context

Leviticus 26:16 similarly threatened wasting diseases. During the Babylonian siege, plague accompanied famine (Jeremiah 21:6-7). The Roman siege likewise brought epidemic disease due to crowding and starvation. Throughout the diaspora, Jewish communities suffered disproportionately from medieval plague outbreaks.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Study Questions

1. How does this passage demonstrate that God's deliverance is conditional on covenant faithfulness?
2. What does the reversal of Exodus 15:26 teach about the nature of blessing and curse?
3. In what ways does Christ's healing ministry demonstrate the reversal of these curses?

Interlinear Text

וְהַשֵּׁב	בְּגַם	אַתָּה	כָּל	מִלְאָה	מִצְבָּה
Moreover he will bring		H0	H853	H3605	upon thee all the diseases
H7725				H4064	of Egypt
H834	אֲשֶׁר	נִירָא	מִפְנִימָה	וְיִדְבֹּר	בְּלֹא:
which thou wast afraid		H3025	of	H6440	H0
				H1692	

Additional Cross-References

Deuteronomy 7:15 (References Egypt): And the LORD will take away from thee all sickness, and will put none of the evil diseases of Egypt, which thou knowest, upon thee; but will lay them upon all them that hate thee.