

Deuteronomy 7:15

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

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.

Analysis

God promises to remove sickness and reverse the plagues of Egypt upon Israel's enemies. The 'evil diseases of Egypt' likely refers to plagues experienced during the Exodus and endemic diseases in Egypt (dysentery, ophthalmia, skin diseases). This demonstrates God's sovereign control over health and disease—both blessing and curse flow from His hand. The promise is covenant-conditional: obedience brings health; disobedience brings disease (Deuteronomy 28:27-28, 60-61). This isn't a health-wealth prosperity promise but covenant principle. The New Testament shows Christ healing diseases, demonstrating His power over sickness (Matthew 8:17). Ultimate healing comes in resurrection (Revelation 21:4), though God may graciously heal in this life.

Historical Context

Ancient Egypt suffered various endemic diseases due to poor sanitation, parasites from Nile water, and crowded urban conditions. The plagues of Exodus demonstrated God's power over disease and nature. In Israel's subsequent history, health and national vitality correlated with covenant faithfulness. Hezekiah's illness and healing (2 Kings 20) demonstrated both God's sovereignty over sickness and His mercy in response to prayer. The prophets warned that covenant violation would bring disease (Jeremiah 14:12; Ezekiel 14:19).

Related Passages

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. How should you understand the relationship between sin, suffering, and sickness in light of Scripture?
2. What does God's promise to control disease teach about His sovereignty over all aspects of life?
3. How does Christ's healing ministry inform your prayers for healing and your response to sickness?

Interlinear Text

מְדֹבֶר	וְכָל	חַדְרָה	לִי	כִּל	מִתְּנָה	יְהִי הָ	וְיִהְשָׁרֵךְ	וְיִתְּאַלְּפֶךְ
diseases	H3605	H2483	H3605	H3605	H3605	H3605	H3605	H4064
will take away	And the LORD	יהָיָה	מִתְּנָה	כִּל	מִתְּנָה	יְהִי הָ	וְיִהְשָׁרֵךְ	וְיִתְּאַלְּפֶךְ
H5493	H3068	H4480	H3605					
מִצְבֵּחַ	אֲשֶׁר	בְּרִעָה	יְמִין	אֲשֶׁר	בְּרִעָה	יְמִין	וְשִׁימְמָמָה	לְאַתְּ
of Egypt	none of the evil	בְּרִעָה	יְמִין	מִצְבֵּחַ	אֲשֶׁר	בְּרִעָה	יְמִין	וְשִׁימְמָמָה
H4714	H7451	H834	H3045	H3605	H3808	H3808	H7760	
בְּ	בְּ	בְּ	בְּ	בְּ	בְּ	בְּ	בְּ	בְּ
upon thee	but will lay	וְנִתְּנֶה	בְּכָל	שְׁנָאֵיכֶם	תְּ	תְּ	תְּ	תְּ
H0	H5414	H3605		H8130				

Additional Cross-References

Exodus 15:26 (References Lord): And said, If thou wilt diligently hearken to the voice of the LORD thy God, and wilt do that which is right in his sight, and wilt give ear to his commandments, and keep all his statutes, I will put none of these diseases upon thee, which I have brought upon the Egyptians: for I am the LORD that healeth thee.

Exodus 9:11 (References Egypt): And the magicians could not stand before Moses because of the boils; for the boil was upon the magicians, and upon all the Egyptians.

Deuteronomy 28:60 (References Egypt): Moreover he will bring upon thee all the diseases of Egypt, which thou wast afraid of; and they shall cleave unto thee.

Deuteronomy 28:27 (References Lord): The LORD will smite thee with the botch of Egypt, and with the emerods, and with the scab, and with the itch, whereof thou canst not be healed.

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