

Deuteronomy 9:29

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Yet they are thy people and thine inheritance, which thou broughtest out by thy mighty power and by thy stretched out arm.

Analysis

Yet they are thy people and thine inheritance (נַחֲלָתְךָ, nachalatekha)—Moses concludes his intercessory prayer by appealing to God's covenant ownership of Israel. The term nachalah (inheritance) emphasizes that Israel belongs to Yahweh by election, not merit—they are His treasured possession (Exodus 19:5). **Thy mighty power and by thy stretched out arm** recalls the exodus redemption: God's investment in Israel through the plagues and Red Sea crossing becomes Moses's argument for their preservation.

This verse captures the theology of intercession: Moses pleads not Israel's righteousness (which he's just demolished in ch. 9:4-24) but God's reputation and covenant faithfulness. Paul applies similar logic in Romans 8:32—if God gave His Son, how will He not freely give us all things? Christ is our greater Mediator who intercedes based on His own redemptive work.

Historical Context

Moses prayed this during the 40-day fast on Mount Sinai after Israel's golden calf apostasy (Exodus 32-34). He interceded to prevent God's judgment and preserve the covenant people. This prayer exemplifies the mediatorial role that prefigures Christ's high priestly ministry.

Related Passages

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. How does Moses's appeal to God's redemptive investment in Israel inform how we pray based on Christ's finished work?
2. What does it mean that believers are God's 'inheritance' (Ephesians 1:18), and how should this shape our identity?

Interlinear Text

וְהֵם H1992	עַמֶּךָ H5971	וְנַחֲלָתְךָ H5159	אֲשֶׁר H834
	Yet they are thy people	and thine inheritance	
הוֹצֵאתָ H3318	בְּכֹחְךָ H3581	הַגָּדֹל לְ H1419	וּבְזְרֹעֲךָ H2220
which thou broughtest out	power	by thy mighty	arm
וְהִנְטִיָּהּ H5186			
and by thy stretched out			

Additional Cross-References

Nehemiah 1:10 (Parallel theme): Now these are thy servants and thy people, whom thou hast redeemed by thy great power, and by thy strong hand.

Deuteronomy 9:26 (Parallel theme): I prayed therefore unto the LORD, and said, O Lord GOD, destroy not thy people and thine inheritance, which thou hast redeemed through thy greatness, which thou hast brought forth out of Egypt with a mighty hand.

Deuteronomy 4:34 (Parallel theme): Or hath God assayed to go and take him a nation from the midst of another nation, by temptations, by signs, and by wonders, and by war, and by a mighty hand, and by a stretched out arm, and by great terrors, according to all that the LORD your God did for you in Egypt before your eyes?

1 Kings 8:51 (Parallel theme): For they be thy people, and thine inheritance, which thou broughtest forth out of Egypt, from the midst of the furnace of iron:

Psalms 95:7 (Parallel theme): For he is our God; and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand. To day if ye will hear his voice,

Deuteronomy 4:20 (Parallel theme): But the LORD hath taken you, and brought you forth out of the iron furnace, even out of Egypt, to be unto him a people of inheritance, as ye are this day.

Isaiah 63:19 (Parallel theme): We are thine: thou never barest rule over them; they were not called by thy name.

Psalms 100:3 (Parallel theme): Know ye that the LORD he is God: it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.