

Exodus 1:6

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Joseph died, and all his brethren, and all that generation.

Analysis

And Joseph died, and all his brethren, and all that generation (וַיָּמֵת יוֹסֵף וְכָל־אֶחָיו, vayamat Yosef vekhol-echav)—This somber summary marks the end of an era. The Hebrew verb **died** (נִמֵּת, mut) appears three times (Joseph, brothers, generation), emphasizing finality and transition. Despite Joseph's honored status (Genesis 50:26), death claims all—setting the stage for a new pharaoh who "knew not Joseph" (v. 8). The theological message: human glory fades, but God's covenant purposes endure. This verse creates narrative tension: with the protecting generation gone, how will Israel survive?

Historical Context

Joseph died at 110 years old (Genesis 50:26), approximately 1805 BC if the Exodus occurred c. 1446 BC. The phrase "all that generation" covers the ~70-year period when eyewitnesses to Jacob's era passed away. This generational shift explains why later pharaohs felt no obligation to honor Joseph's memory or treaties with his family.

Related Passages

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. How does the death of the protective generation challenge you to trust God rather than human circumstances?
2. What does this transition teach about preparing the next generation to maintain faith when conditions change?

Interlinear Text

וְמֵת יָמֵן וְיָמֵן יָמֵן
died And Joseph H3605 and all his brethren H3605 and all that generation
H4191 H3130 H251 H1755

בְּהִוא:

H1931

Additional Cross-References

Genesis 50:26 (Parallel theme): So Joseph died, being an hundred and ten years old: and they embalmed him, and he was put in a coffin in Egypt.

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