

Exodus 12:33

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the Egyptians were urgent upon the people, that they might send them out of the land in haste; for they said, We be all dead men.

Analysis

The Egyptians' urgency—'were urgent upon the people'—reveals panic-driven haste. Their motivation, 'We be all dead men,' shows they recognized the pattern could continue until Egypt was completely destroyed. This fulfills God's promise that Egyptians would 'thrust' Israel out (Exodus 11:1). Those who once enslaved Israel now beg them to leave, demonstrating God's complete reversal of circumstances.

Historical Context

After losing their firstborn and experiencing ten devastating plagues, Egyptians feared continued presence of Israel would bring further catastrophe. Their terror accomplished what Pharaoh's decrees couldn't—immediate release.

Related Passages

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. How does the Egyptians' panic demonstrate that those who oppress God's people ultimately fear them?
2. What does God's method of making enemies desperate to release His people teach about His sovereignty over circumstances?

Interlinear Text

וַתְּהִי קָ	מִצְרַיִם	עַל	הָעָם	לְמַהֲרָה	
were urgent	And the Egyptians	H5921	upon the people	in haste	
H2388	H4714		H5971	H4116	
לְשַׁלְּחָם	מִן	הָאֶרֶץ	כִּי	אָמְרוּ	כָּל־נֹוֹ
that they might send	H4480	them out of the land	H3588	for they said	H3605
H7971		H776		H559	
מֵתִים:					
We be all dead					
H4191					

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 105:38 (References Egypt): Egypt was glad when they departed: for the fear of them fell upon them.

Exodus 11:1 (References Egypt): And the LORD said unto Moses, Yet will I bring one plague more upon Pharaoh, and upon Egypt; afterwards he will let you go hence: when he shall let you go, he shall surely thrust you out hence altogether.