

Exodus 12:42

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

It is a night to be much observed unto the LORD for bringing them out from the land of Egypt: this is that night of the LORD to be observed of all the children of Israel in their generations.

Analysis

This night is 'much to be observed' (leil shimurim, ליל שִׁמּוּרִים—a night of watching). God 'watched' to bring them out; Israel must 'observe' by remembering. The reciprocal watching creates a memorial where both divine vigilance and human remembrance meet. The phrase 'throughout their generations' ensures perpetual commemoration. This night becomes Israel's defining moment, annually re-experienced.

Historical Context

This verse establishes Passover night as the most significant date in Jewish calendar. The 'night to be remembered' created a liturgical center around which Israel's worship year revolved.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Study Questions

1. How does recognizing that God 'watched' for you during your redemption deepen appreciation for His saving work?
2. What specific ways do you 'observe' the anniversary of your conversion or spiritual milestones?

Interlinear Text

לְהַזְכִּיאָ מִ
לִיהְיוֹת הַ
שָׁמַר יִם
כָּל יְלָה
הַוָּא
It is a night to be much observed
H3915 H8107 H1931 H3068 H3318

לִיהְיוֹת הַ
פֶּזֶה
כָּל יְלָה
הַוָּא מִצְרָיִם
מֵאֶgypt
them out from the land of Egypt
H776 H4714 H1931 H3915 H2088 H3068

לְדַרְתֶּם:
ישְׁכָא לְ
בְּנֵי
לְכָל
שָׁמַר יִם
to be much observed H3605 H1121 H3478 H1755 of all the children of Israel in their generations

Additional Cross-References

Exodus 12:14 (References Lord): And this day shall be unto you for a memorial; and ye shall keep it a feast to the LORD throughout your generations; ye shall keep it a feast by an ordinance for ever.

Exodus 13:10 (Parallel theme): Thou shalt therefore keep this ordinance in his season from year to year.