

Exodus 13:19

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Moses took the bones of Joseph with him: for he had straitly sworn the children of Israel, saying, God will surely visit you; and ye shall carry up my bones away hence with you.

Analysis

Moses taking Joseph's bones fulfills the oath Joseph extracted in Genesis 50:25. The phrase 'Ye shall carry up my bones away hence with you' shows Joseph's faith that God would fulfill His promise to bring Israel to Canaan. Carrying these bones throughout forty wilderness years testified to covenant faithfulness—both God's (bringing Israel out) and Joseph's (trusting God's promise despite dying in Egypt).

Historical Context

Joseph died in Egypt (Genesis 50:26) and was embalmed. His bones were transported through wilderness wanderings and eventually buried at Shechem (Joshua 24:32), fulfilling the oath after 400+ years.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Study Questions

1. How does Joseph's faith expressed through his burial request teach about confident hope in God's promises?
2. What does carrying Joseph's bones throughout the wilderness teach about honoring past saints' faith?

Interlinear Text

וְיָקָרְנָה	וְיָקָרְנָה	מֵשֶׁה	אֶת	עַצְמָתִי	וְיָסַרְתִּי	עַמּוֹן	כִּי	הָשַׁבְתִּי
took	And Moses	H853	my bones	of Joseph	H5973	H3588		sworn
H3947	H4872		H6106	H3130				H7650
וְיָקָרְנָה	וְיָקָרְנָה	אֶת	הָשַׁבְתִּי	בָּנִי	לְאָמֵר	רַבִּי	יִפְלַךְ	יִפְלַךְ
sworn	H853	the children	of Israel	saying		visit		visit
H7650		H1121	H3478	H559		H6485		H6485
אֱלֹהִים	אֱלֹהִים	מִן	הָעַצְמָתִי	אֶת	וּפְעֻלִיתִי	מִן	אֶתְכֶם	מִן
God	H853	away	H853	my bones	H2088	H854		
H430		H5927		H6106				

Additional Cross-References

Joshua 24:32 (References Israel): And the bones of Joseph, which the children of Israel brought up out of Egypt, buried they in Shechem, in a parcel of ground which Jacob bought of the sons of Hamor the father of Shechem for an hundred pieces of silver: and it became the inheritance of the children of Joseph.

Acts 7:16 (Parallel theme): And were carried over into Sychem, and laid in the sepulchre that Abraham bought for a sum of money of the sons of Emmor the father of Sychem.

Genesis 48:21 (References God): And Israel said unto Joseph, Behold, I die: but God shall be with you, and bring you again unto the land of your fathers.