

Exodus 13:4

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

This day came ye out in the month Abib.

Analysis

The temporal marker 'This day came ye out in the month Abib' fixes the exodus to a specific historical date. 'Abib' (Aviv, אֲבִיב) means 'spring' or 'green ears,' referring to ripening barley. Anchoring faith to historical events rather than myths distinguishes biblical religion. Christianity similarly roots in datable events—Christ's crucifixion 'under Pontius Pilate' (1 Timothy 6:13).

Historical Context

Abib (later called Nisan) falls in March-April. The month name connects redemption to agricultural renewal—spring harvest coinciding with spiritual harvest/redemption.

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. How does the historical specificity of biblical redemption events differ from timeless myths or principles?
2. What does anchoring faith to calendar dates teach about God working within human history?

Interlinear Text

הַיּוֹם	אָתָּה	יָצָאתָ	בְּחֹדֶשׁ	אֲבִיב:
This day	H859	came ye out	in the month	Abib
H3117		H3318	H2320	H24

Additional Cross-References

Exodus 34:18 (Parallel theme): The feast of unleavened bread shalt thou keep. Seven days thou shalt eat unleavened bread, as I commanded thee, in the time of the month Abib: for in the month Abib thou camest out from Egypt.

Exodus 23:15 (Parallel theme): Thou shalt keep the feast of unleavened bread: (thou shalt eat unleavened bread seven days, as I commanded thee, in the time appointed of the month Abib; for in it thou camest out from Egypt: and none shall appear before me empty:)

Exodus 12:2 (Parallel theme): This month shall be unto you the beginning of months: it shall be the first month of the year to you.