

Exodus 15:3

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The LORD is a man of war: the LORD is his name.

Analysis

The declaration 'The LORD is a man of war' uses anthropomorphic language—God is compared to a warrior. The Hebrew 'ish milchamah' (אִישׁ מִלְחָמָה) means warrior/military man. This challenges modern sentimentalism that denies God's warring character. The parallel statement 'the LORD is his name' identifies YHWH as the personal covenant name. God's identity includes being a warrior who fights for His people. This anticipates Christ as conquering King (Revelation 19:11-16).

Historical Context

This description of YHWH as warrior appears throughout Scripture (Exodus 14:14, Joshua 10:14, Judges 4:15). Israel's God fights for His people against their enemies, demonstrating His love through power.

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Study Questions

1. How does recognizing God as a warrior balance modern tendencies toward sentimentalism that ignores His wrath?

2. What battles are you trying to fight alone rather than trusting the LORD as your warrior?

Interlinear Text

שְׁמֹוּנָה יְהִי הָאָשָׁר מַלְחֵם הַרְבֵּה
The LORD is a man of war The LORD is his name
H3068 H376 H4421 H3068 H8034

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 24:8 (References Lord): Who is this King of glory? The LORD strong and mighty, the LORD mighty in battle.

Exodus 14:14 (References Lord): The LORD shall fight for you, and ye shall hold your peace.

Isaiah 42:8 (References Lord): I am the LORD: that is my name: and my glory will I not give to another, neither my praise to graven images.

Psalms 83:18 (Parallel theme): That men may know that thou, whose name alone is JEHOVAH, art the most high over all the earth.

Psalms 45:3 (Parallel theme): Gird thy sword upon thy thigh, O most mighty, with thy glory and thy majesty.

Exodus 3:15 (References Lord): And God said moreover unto Moses, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, The LORD God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, hath sent me unto you: this is my name for ever, and this is my memorial unto all generations.

Exodus 3:13 (Parallel theme): And Moses said unto God, Behold, when I come unto the children of Israel, and shall say unto them, The God of your fathers hath sent me unto you; and they shall say to me, What is his name? what shall I say unto them?