

Exodus 15:5

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The depths have covered them: they sank into the bottom as a stone.

Analysis

The imagery 'the depths have covered them' emphasizes complete drowning. The simile 'they sank into the bottom as a stone' pictures rapid, permanent descent. Egyptian bodies didn't float but sank immediately, ensuring no survival or recovery. The finality of judgment is emphasized—enemies don't merely suffer setback but complete destruction. This fulfilled God's promise of honor through Egypt's defeat.

Historical Context

The imagery of sinking 'as a stone' was proverbial for complete, irreversible loss. In ancient thought, drowning meant no proper burial and thus no afterlife—ultimate destruction.

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. How does the imagery of enemies sinking 'as a stone' picture the finality of Christ's victory over sin and death?
2. What defeated enemy are you treating as still threatening rather than recognizing its complete destruction?

Interlinear Text

תְּהֵמָּה	יָכְסוּ מִן	יָרְדוּ וְ	בְּמִצּוֹלָה	כְּמוֹ	אֶבֶן:
The depths	have covered	them they sank	into the bottom	as	a stone
H8415	H3680	H3381	H4688	H3644	H68

Additional Cross-References

Nehemiah 9:11 (Parallel theme): And thou didst divide the sea before them, so that they went through the midst of the sea on the dry land; and their persecutors thou threwest into the deeps, as a stone into the mighty waters.

Exodus 14:28 (Parallel theme): And the waters returned, and covered the chariots, and the horsemen, and all the host of Pharaoh that came into the sea after them; there remained not so much as one of them.

Exodus 15:10 (Parallel theme): Thou didst blow with thy wind, the sea covered them: they sank as lead in the mighty waters.