

Exodus 15:8

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And with the blast of thy nostrils the waters were gathered together, the floods stood upright as an heap, and the depths were congealed in the heart of the sea.

Analysis

The means of victory: 'with the blast of thy nostrils' anthropomorphizes God's breath as wind. This connects to 14:21's 'strong east wind'—natural means, supernatural orchestration. The result: 'the waters were gathered together, the floods stood upright as an heap' pictures water defying gravity. The phrase 'the depths were congealed in the heart of the sea' suggests water solidified like ice—miraculous suspension of natural law. Creation obeys Creator.

Historical Context

The 'blast of nostrils' metaphor appears in Psalm 18:15 and Job 4:9, indicating God's power expressed through what seems natural. Wind and breath are linguistically related in Hebrew (ruach).

Related Passages

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. How does God using natural means (wind) for supernatural ends demonstrate His sovereignty over creation?
2. What impossible situation needs God's 'breath' to suspend natural law in your favor?

Interlinear Text

וּבַר וַיִּחַ	אֶפְיָ יְיָ	נִּפְעָמוּ	מֵי יָם	נִצָּב וַיִּשָּׁב	
And with the blast	of thy nostrils	were gathered together	the waters	stood upright	
H7307	H639	H6192	H4325	H5324	
כְּמוֹ	גִּדְד	נִזְלָ יָם	קָפְאוּ	תְהוֹמֹת	בְּלִב
H3644	as an heap	the floods	were congealed	and the depths	in the heart
	H5067	H5140	H7087	H8415	H3820
יָם:					
of the sea					
H3220					

Additional Cross-References

Job 4:9 (Parallel theme): By the blast of God they perish, and by the breath of his nostrils are they consumed.

Psalms 78:13 (Parallel theme): He divided the sea, and caused them to pass through; and he made the waters to stand as an heap.

Isaiah 11:4 (Parallel theme): But with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth: and he shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked.

Habakkuk 3:10 (Parallel theme): The mountains saw thee, and they trembled: the overflowing of the water passed by: the deep uttered his voice, and lifted up his hands on high.

2 Samuel 22:16 (Parallel theme): And the channels of the sea appeared, the foundations of the world were discovered, at the rebuking of the LORD, at the blast of the breath of his nostrils.

2 Thessalonians 2:8 (Parallel theme): And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming:

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