

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

נָאָב	וְ	מִ	עַמְּדָה	בְּ	עַרְמָה	וְ	בָּרָא	וְ
And	with	the	blast	of	thy	nostrils	were	gathered
			H7307		H639		H6192	
together							the	waters
							stood	upright
							H4325	H5324
בְּלֹבֶן	תְּהִמְתָּן	קְפָאָה	בְּנֵלֶם	בְּנֵדֶם	בְּלֹבֶן			
as	an	heap	the	floods	were	congealed	and	the
H3644	H5067		H5140		H7087		H8415	H3820
וְ	מִ	עַמְּדָה	בְּ	עַרְמָה	וְ	בָּרָא	וְ	
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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