

Exodus 18:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Jethro said, Blessed be the LORD, who hath delivered you out of the hand of the Egyptians, and out of the hand of Pharaoh, who hath delivered the people from under the hand of the Egyptians.

Analysis

And Jethro said, Blessed be the LORD, who hath delivered you out of the hand of the Egyptians—Jethro's blessing formula 'Blessed be the LORD' (ברוך יהוה, barukh YHWH) is first use of this liturgical phrase in Scripture, setting pattern for worship. His blessing specifically names YHWH, not generic deity, showing he worships Israel's covenant God. The dual deliverance—"out of the hand of the Egyptians, and out of the hand of Pharaoh"—distinguishes nation (Egyptians) from ruler (Pharaoh), comprehensively acknowledging complete liberation. The phrase 'who hath delivered the people from under the hand of the Egyptians' adds third emphasis on rescue. This triple deliverance statement builds to crescendo of praise, modeling worship's multiplication of God's mercies.

Historical Context

Jethro's blessing represents a Midianite priest's acknowledgment of YHWH's supremacy. As descendant of Abraham through Keturah, Jethro likely worshipped God but now explicitly recognizes YHWH's covenant name and power.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Study Questions

1. What does Jethro blessing YHWH specifically teach about the particularity of true worship?
2. How does threefold emphasis on deliverance model worship that multiplies recounting God's mercies?

Interlinear Text

וַיֹּאמֶר	יְתָרוּ	בָּרוּ	וְיִתְהַלֵּל	אֵשׁ	רָאשָׁה	הַצִּיל
said	And Jethro	Blessed	be the LORD	H834	who hath delivered	
H559	H3503	H1288	H3068		H5337	
אֹתְךָ	וְ	מִצְרָיִם:	וְ	פְּרָעָה		
H853		H4714	H3027	H6547		
and out of the hand	of the Egyptians	and out of the hand	of Pharaoh			
אֵשׁ	רָאשָׁה	הַצִּיל	אֶת	מִתְּחִלָּה	וְ	
H834	who hath delivered	H853	the people	H8478	and out of the hand	
	H5337		H5971		H3027	
מִצְרָיִם:						
of the Egyptians						
H4714						

Additional Cross-References

Genesis 14:20 (Blessing): And blessed be the most high God, which hath delivered thine enemies into thy hand. And he gave him tithes of all.

2 Samuel 18:28 (Blessing): And Ahimaaz called, and said unto the king, All is well. And he fell down to the earth upon his face before the king, and said, Blessed be the LORD thy God, which hath delivered up the men that lifted up their hand against my lord the king.

Luke 1:68 (Blessing): Blessed be the Lord God of Israel; for he hath visited and redeemed his people,

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