

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' (בָּרוּךְ יְהוָה, 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

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 יִתְרוֹ בָּרַךְ יְיָ יְהוָה אֱשֶׁר הֵצִיל
said And Jethro Blessed be the LORD H834 who hath delivered
H559 H3503 H1288 H3068 H5337

אֶתְּךָ יָד מִמִּצְרַיִם: יָד פַּרְעֹה
H853 and out of the hand of the Egyptians and out of the hand of Pharaoh
H3027 H4714 H3027 H6547

אֱשֶׁר הֵצִיל אֶת הָעָם מִתַּחַת יָד
H834 who hath delivered H853 the people H8478 and out of the hand
H5337 H5971 H3027

מִמִּצְרַיִם:
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,

From KJV Study • kjevstudy.org