

# Exodus 18:4

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the name of the other was Eliezer; for the God of my father, said he, was mine help, and delivered me from the sword of Pharaoh:

## Analysis

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**And the name of the other was Eliezer; for the God of my father, said he, was mine help, and delivered me from the sword of Pharaoh**—Eliezer's name (אֱלִיעֶזֶר, 'God is help') contrasts with Gershom's alienation theme—though stranger, Moses found divine help. The naming reference 'God of my father' invokes patriarchal covenant (Abraham, Isaac, Jacob), showing Moses' connection to Israel's lineage despite Midian residence. The phrase 'delivered me from the sword of Pharaoh' likely refers to Moses' flight after killing the Egyptian (Ex 2:15). These two names encapsulate Moses' theology: alienation (Gershom) met by divine rescue (Eliezer). Together they preview Israel's story: though exiled, God delivers. Christ fulfills both names: Immanuel ('God with us') joins our exile and delivers from death.

## Historical Context

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Eliezer's birth in Midian marked God's protection of Moses during his fugitive years. The name testified to God's faithfulness even when Moses lived outside the covenant community in Egypt.

## Related Passages

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**1 John 4:8** — God is love

**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

**Psalms 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

**Genesis 1:1** — Creation of heavens and earth

## Study Questions

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1. How do the two sons' names (stranger and God-helps) summarize the tension of living by faith?
2. What does Moses invoking 'God of my father' teach about covenant identity transcending geography?

## Interlinear Text

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וְשֵׁם	הַאֲחֵר	אֵלִיעֶזֶר	כִּי	אֱלֹהֵי	אָבִי
And the name	of the other	was Eliezer	H3588	for the God	of my father
H8034	H259	H461		H430	H1
בְּעֶזְרִי	וַיַּצִּילֵנִי	מִיָּד רָב	פַּרְעֹה:		
said he was mine help	and delivered	me from the sword	of Pharaoh		
H5828	H5337	H2719	H6547		

## Additional Cross-References

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**Hebrews 13:6** (Parallel theme): So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me.

**Acts 12:11** (Parallel theme): And when Peter was come to himself, he said, Now I know of a surety, that the Lord hath sent his angel, and hath delivered me out of the hand of Herod, and from all the expectation of the people of the Jews.

**2 Timothy 4:17** (Parallel theme): Notwithstanding the Lord stood with me, and strengthened me; that by me the preaching might be fully known, and that all the Gentiles might hear: and I was delivered out of the mouth of the lion.

