

Exodus 2:24

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And God heard their groaning, and God remembered his covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob.

Analysis

And God heard their groaning, and God remembered his covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob (וַיִּשְׁמַע אֱלֹהִים אֶת־נַאֲקָתָם וַיִּזְכֹּר אֱלֹהִים אֶת־בְּרִיתוֹ) וַיִּשְׁמַע אֱלֹהִים אֶת־נַאֲקָתָם וַיִּזְכֹּר אֱלֹהִים אֶת־בְּרִיתוֹ, vayishma Elohim et-na'akatam vayizkhor Elohim et-berito et-Avraham et-Yitschak ve'et-Ya'akov)—Four emphatic verbs with "God" (אֱלֹהִים, Elohim) as subject: **heard**, **remembered**, **looked** (v. 25), **knew** (v. 25). **Remembered his covenant** doesn't imply God forgot—Hebrew זָכַר (zakhar, "remember") means "act in accordance with." God moves to fulfill covenant promises made centuries earlier (Genesis 15:13-14, 17:7-8). The threefold invocation—**Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob**—emphasizes covenant continuity across generations. Redemption begins with God's faithfulness, not human merit.

Historical Context

The Abrahamic covenant (Genesis 12, 15, 17) promised land, descendants, and blessing. Genesis 15:13-14 specifically foretold Egyptian bondage and subsequent deliverance. God's "remembering" at this moment fulfills His prophetic word given 400+ years prior. This theme of divine faithfulness to covenant will pervade Exodus and all subsequent redemptive history.

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. How does God's 'remembering' His covenant after centuries encourage your faith when promises seem delayed?
2. What does the invocation of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob teach about God's faithfulness spanning generations and outlasting human lifespans?

Interlinear Text

וְשָׁמַע	אֶת אֱלֹהִים	אֶת נִאֲקָתָם	וַיִּזְכֹּר	אֶת אֱלֹהִים
heard	And God	their groaning	remembered	And God
H8085	H430	H5009	H2142	H430
בְּרִיתִי	אֶת אַבְרָהָם	אֶת יִצְחָק	וְאֶת יַעֲקֹב	
his covenant	with Abraham	with Isaac	and with Jacob	
H1285	H85	H3327	H3290	

Additional Cross-References

Genesis 26:3 (References Abraham): Sojourn in this land, and I will be with thee, and will bless thee; for unto thee, and unto thy seed, I will give all these countries, and I will perform the oath which I sware unto Abraham thy father;

Psalms 105:42 (Covenant): For he remembered his holy promise, and Abraham his servant.

Exodus 6:5 (Covenant): And I have also heard the groaning of the children of Israel, whom the Egyptians keep in bondage; and I have remembered my covenant.

Psalms 102:20 (Parallel theme): To hear the groaning of the prisoner; to loose those that are appointed to death;

Psalms 106:45 (Covenant): And he remembered for them his covenant, and repented according to the multitude of his mercies.

Psalms 22:24 (Parallel theme): For he hath not despised nor abhorred the affliction of the afflicted; neither hath he hid his face from him; but when he cried unto him, he heard.

Psalms 138:3 (Parallel theme): In the day when I cried thou answeredst me, and strengthenedst me with strength in my soul.

Genesis 26:24 (References God): And the LORD appeared unto him the same night, and said, I am the God of Abraham thy father: fear not, for I am with thee, and will bless thee, and multiply thy seed for my servant Abraham's sake.

Psalms 22:5 (Parallel theme): They cried unto thee, and were delivered: they trusted in thee, and were not confounded.

Genesis 17:7 (Covenant): And I will establish my covenant between me and thee and thy seed after thee in their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be a God unto thee, and to thy seed after thee.