Exodus 3:22

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

> But every woman shall borrow of her neighbour, and of her that sojourneth in her house, jewels of silver, and jewels of gold, and raiment: and ye shall put them upon your sons, and upon your daughters; and ye shall spoil the Egyptians.

Analysis

But every woman shall borrow of her neighbour, and of her that sojourneth in her house, jewels of silver, and jewels of gold, and raiment: and ye shall put them upon your sons, and upon your daughters; and ye shall spoil the Egyptians (וְשָׁאֲלָה אִשָּׁה מִשְּׁכֶנְתָּהּ וּמִגָּרַת בֵּיתָהּ כְּלֵי־כֶסֶף וּכְלֵי זָהָב וּשְׂמָלֹת... וְנִצַּלְתֶּם אֶת־מִצְרָיִם)— The method: **borrow** (שָׁאַל, sha'al, more accurately "ask/request") items from neighbors. **Jewels of silver and gold, and raiment**—valuable portable wealth. **Put them upon your sons and daughters**—adorning the next generation. **Ye shall spoil the Egyptians** (וְנִצַּלְתֶּם אֶת־מִצְרָיִם, venitsaltem et-Mitsrayim)—**spoil** (נָצַל, natsal) means "plunder/strip." This is poetic justice: Egypt exploited Israel's labor for centuries; now Israel takes Egypt's wealth. The fulfillment (12:35-36) shows Egyptians giving willingly, eager for Israel to leave. God orchestrates recompense and provides resources for wilderness journey and tabernacle worship.

Historical Context

The 'borrowing' language (KJV) misled some to think Israel acted deceptively. Better translation: 'ask/request.' Exodus 12:35-36 shows Egyptians gave willingly—after the tenth plague, they were desperate for Israel to leave and gave generously (12:33). This wealth transfer reversed economic exploitation and fulfilled God's

promise of leaving 'with great substance' (Genesis 15:14). The silver and gold later funded tabernacle construction (Exodus 25-40).

Related Passages

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. How does the 'spoiling of Egypt' illustrate God's justice in compensating the oppressed and judging oppressors economically as well as physically?
2. What does God's provision of resources before the journey teach about His care to equip His people for the missions He assigns?

Interlinear Text

וְשָׁאֲלָ ה	אִשָּׁ ה	מִשְּׁכֶנְתָּהּ	וּמִגָּרַ ת
shall borrow	But every woman	of her neighbour	and of her that sojourneth
H7592	H802	H7934	H1481

בֵּיתָ הּ	וּכְלֵ י	כֶּ סֶף	וּכְלֵ י	זָהָ ב	וּשְׂמָל ת
in her house	and jewels	of silver	and jewels	of gold	and raiment
H1004	H3627	H3701	H3627	H2091	H8071

וְשַׂמְתֶּ ם	עַל	בְּנֵיכֶם	וְעַל	בְּנֹ תֵיכֶ ם
and ye shall put	H5921	them upon your sons	H5921	and upon your daughters
H7760		H1121		H1323

וְנִצַּלְתֶּ ם	אֶת	מִצְרָיִם׃
and ye shall spoil	H853	the Egyptians
H5337		H4714

Additional Cross-References

Ezekiel 39:10 (Parallel theme): So that they shall take no wood out of the field, neither cut down any out of the forests; for they shall burn the weapons with fire: and they shall spoil those that spoiled them, and rob those that robbed them, saith the Lord GOD.

Psalms 105:37 (Parallel theme): He brought them forth also with silver and gold: and there was not one feeble person among their tribes.

Exodus 11:2 (Parallel theme): Speak now in the ears of the people, and let every man borrow of his neighbour, and every woman of her neighbour, jewels of silver, and jewels of gold.

Isaiah 33:1 (Parallel theme): Woe to thee that spoilest, and thou wast not spoiled; and dealest treacherously, and they dealt not treacherously with thee! when thou shalt cease to spoil, thou shalt be spoiled; and when thou shalt make an end to deal treacherously, they shall deal treacherously with thee.

Proverbs 13:22 (Parallel theme): A good man leaveth an inheritance to his children's children: and the wealth of the sinner is laid up for the just.

Genesis 15:14 (Parallel theme): And also that nation, whom they shall serve, will I judge: and afterward shall they come out with great substance.