

Exodus 33:1

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the LORD said unto Moses, Depart, and go up hence, thou and the people which thou hast brought up out of the land of Egypt, unto the land which I sware unto Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, saying, Unto thy seed will I give it:

Analysis

And the LORD said unto Moses, Depart, and go up hence—After the golden calf apostasy (ch. 32), God commands departure but threatens withdrawal of His immediate presence. The phrase 'the people which thou hast brought up' (not 'My people whom I brought up') signals divine distancing. Yet the covenant promise to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob remains unbreakable—God's faithfulness transcends Israel's unfaithfulness. This tension between judgment and mercy sets the stage for Moses' intercession.

Historical Context

Spoken at Sinai immediately after the golden calf incident. The Abrahamic covenant (Genesis 12:7, 15:18) guaranteed the land regardless of Israel's obedience, demonstrating the unconditional nature of God's promises to the patriarchs.

Related Passages

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. How does God's faithfulness to His promises encourage you when you've failed Him?
2. What does this verse teach about the distinction between positional covenant promises and relational intimacy with God?

Interlinear Text

וַיֹּדֶבֶר	יְהוָה	אֶל	מֹשֶׁה	לֵךְ	הָעֹלָה יִתְּ	מִן הָ	אֶת הָ
said	And the LORD	H413	unto Moses	H1980	and go up	H2088	H859
H1696	H3068		H4872		H5927		
יְהִי עַם	וְהָעָם	אֲשֶׁר	הָעֹלָה יִתְּ	הָאֶרֶץ	מִן הָ	אֶל מִצְרָיִם	
hence thou and the people		H834	and go up	out of the land	of Egypt		H413
H5971			H5927	H776	H4714		
הָאֶרֶץ	אֲשֶׁר	נִשְׁבַּעְתִּי	לְאַבְרָהָם	לְיִצְחָק	וְלַיַּעֲקֹב		
out of the land	H834	which I swear	unto Abraham	to Isaac	and to Jacob		
H776		H7650	H85	H3327	H3290		
לֵאמֹר	לְזֶרַעְךָ	אֶתְּנֶנָּה:					
saying	Unto thy seed	will I give					
H559	H2233	H5414					

Additional Cross-References

Genesis 12:7 (References Lord): And the LORD appeared unto Abram, and said, Unto thy seed will I give this land: and there builded he an altar unto the LORD, who appeared unto him.

Exodus 32:13 (References Abraham): Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, thy servants, to whom thou swarest by thine own self, and saidst unto them, I will multiply your seed as the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have spoken of will I give unto your seed, and they shall inherit it for ever.

Exodus 32:7 (References Lord): And the LORD said unto Moses, Go, get thee down; for thy people, which thou broughtest out of the land of Egypt, have corrupted themselves:

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;

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