

Exodus 33:13

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Now therefore, I pray thee, if I have found grace in thy sight, shew me now thy way, that I may know thee, that I may find grace in thy sight: and consider that this nation is thy people.

Analysis

Now therefore, I pray thee, if I have found grace in thy sight, shew me now thy way—Moses seeks experiential knowledge of God's character and methods ('thy way'), not mere information. The Hebrew דֶּרֶךְ (derek, 'way') encompasses God's nature, purposes, and patterns of working. Moses wants to know God Himself, that he might better represent Him ('that I may know thee'). The goal is both personal (deeper intimacy) and corporate ('that I may find grace in thy sight' and successfully lead 'thy people'). True leadership flows from knowing God, not just knowing about Him.

Historical Context

This request echoes Psalm 103:7: 'He made known his ways unto Moses, his acts unto the children of Israel.' While Israel saw God's miracles, Moses understood His character—a distinction between witnessing power and comprehending nature.

Related Passages

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

- ## Interlinear Text

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 27:11 (Parallel theme): Teach me thy way, O LORD, and lead me in a plain path, because of mine enemies.

Psalms 86:11 (Parallel theme): Teach me thy way, O LORD; I will walk in thy truth: unite my heart to fear thy name.

Deuteronomy 9:29 (Parallel theme): Yet they are thy people and thine inheritance, which thou broughtest out by thy mighty power and by thy stretched out arm.

Deuteronomy 9:26 (Prayer): I prayed therefore unto the LORD, and said, O Lord GOD, destroy not thy people and thine inheritance, which thou hast redeemed through thy greatness, which thou hast brought forth out of Egypt with a mighty hand.

Ephesians 1:17 (Parallel theme): That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him:

Isaiah 30:21 (Parallel theme): And thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying, This is the way, walk ye in it, when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left.

Colossians 1:10 (Parallel theme): That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God;

John 17:3 (Parallel theme): And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.