

Exodus 7:6

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Moses and Aaron did as the LORD commanded them, so did they.

Analysis

And Moses and Aaron did as the LORD commanded them, so did they. The emphatic doubling—"did... so did they"—stresses complete obedience. The Hebrew va'ya'asu (וְיָאָשָׁע, "and they did") followed by ken asu (כֹּן עָשָׂה, "so they did") creates a literary frame emphasizing exact compliance with divine instruction. This contrasts sharply with Pharaoh's repeated refusals to obey God's command (5:2, "Who is the LORD, that I should obey his voice?").

The phrase ka'asher tzivah YHWH (כְּאֶשֶׁר צִוָּה יְהֹוָה, "as the LORD commanded") establishes the pattern for all ten plagues: God commands, Moses and Aaron obey, and judgment follows. Their obedience despite past failures (4:10-14, 5:22-23) demonstrates matured faith. This simple statement of compliance serves as a theological hinge—from this point forward, God's power will manifest through their faithful agency. The repetitive structure anticipates the litany of plagues where each begins with divine command and ends with execution.

Historical Context

Moses and Aaron had faced Pharaoh before with disastrous results—increased oppression of Israel and no deliverance (Exodus 5). Their willingness to return demonstrates transformed confidence in God's promise. The intervening genealogy (6:14-27) and renewed commission (6:28-7:5) prepared them for this moment. Egyptian court protocol made approaching Pharaoh dangerous, especially for previously rejected petitioners. That they returned despite past failure, armed only

with a shepherd's rod and divine promise, required extraordinary faith. The historical context—New Kingdom Egypt at the height of power, Pharaoh considered a living god, Moses and Aaron foreigners with a failed previous petition—makes their obedience remarkable.

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Study Questions

1. How does Moses and Aaron's obedience after previous failure encourage persistence in following God's commands despite discouraging circumstances?
2. What does their exact obedience teach about the relationship between faith and compliance with God's specific instructions?

Interlinear Text

עָשָׂה	מֹשֶׁה	וְאַaron	צִוָּה	יְהִי	אַתָּה
did	And Moses	and Aaron	commanded	as the LORD	H853
H6213	H4872	H175	H834	H6680	

עָשָׂה	בְּ	בָּ
did		
H3651		

Additional Cross-References

Exodus 7:2 (Parallel theme): Thou shalt speak all that I command thee: and Aaron thy brother shall speak unto Pharaoh, that he send the children of Israel out of his land.

Exodus 7:10 (References Lord): And Moses and Aaron went in unto Pharaoh, and they did so as the LORD had commanded: and Aaron cast down his rod before Pharaoh, and before his servants, and it became a serpent.

Genesis 6:22 (Parallel theme): Thus did Noah; according to all that God commanded him, so did he.

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