

Exodus 8:20

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the LORD said unto Moses, Rise up early in the morning, and stand before Pharaoh; lo, he cometh forth to the water; and say unto him, Thus saith the LORD, Let my people go, that they may serve me.

Analysis

Verse 20 describes the plague of flies (בָּרֶעֶל, arov—swarms), with crucial distinction: Goshen is protected. God says 'I will sever... the land of Goshen' (v.22), demonstrating selective judgment. This plague may target Khepri, scarab beetle god representing resurrection and transformation.

Historical Context

Khepri, the scarab-headed god, symbolized the rising sun and transformation. The distinction between Egypt and Goshen shows this is not natural disaster but divine judgment. God's protection of His people proves His sovereignty.

Related Passages

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. How does God's protection of His people encourage you in judgment?

2. What does the Egypt-Goshen distinction teach about being 'in the world but not of it'?

Interlinear Text

רָאָמָן	הָיָה	אֶל	מֹשֶׁה	בָּשָׁאָר	בָּבְרִקְעָרָה
and say	And the LORD	H413	unto Moses	Rise up early	in the morning
H559	H3068		H4872	H7925	H1242
וְתִיצְאֶבֶן	לִפְנֵי	וְתִיצְאֶבֶן	וְיַצֵּא	וְיַצֵּא	אֶמְרָא
and stand	before	Pharaoh	H2009	lo he cometh forth	to the water
H3320	H6440	H6547		H3318	H4325
וְיַעֲבֹדְךָ	כִּי	אֶמְרָא	עַמְּךָ	שְׁלָחָ	וְיַעֲבֹדְךָ
H413	H3541	and say	And the LORD	go	Let my people
		H559	H3068	H7971	that they may serve
					H5647

Additional Cross-References

Exodus 7:15 (Parallel theme): Get thee unto Pharaoh in the morning; lo, he goeth out unto the water; and thou shalt stand by the river's brink against he come; and the rod which was turned to a serpent shalt thou take in thine hand.

Exodus 9:13 (Resurrection): And the LORD said unto Moses, Rise up early in the morning, and stand before Pharaoh, and say unto him, Thus saith the LORD God of the Hebrews, Let my people go, that they may serve me.