

Isaiah 10:26

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the LORD of hosts shall stir up a scourge for him according to the slaughter of Midian at the rock of Oreb: and as his rod was upon the sea, so shall he lift it up after the manner of Egypt.

Analysis

God promises to stir up a scourge against Assyria like He did against Midian (Gideon's victory, Judges 7) and Egypt (Red Sea crossing). The 'rod upon the sea' recalls Moses's staff dividing the Red Sea. These historical parallels remind Israel that the same God who delivered them from previous oppressors will deliver from Assyria. The method emphasizes divine intervention—not human military might but miraculous acts. This demonstrates God's consistency—His character and power remain unchanged across generations.

Historical Context

Fulfilled when God's angel destroyed Sennacherib's army (701 BC)—a supernatural deliverance requiring no human military action, just like Gideon and the Exodus. The comparison to Midian and Egypt became proverbial—when God acts, armies are irrelevant. These historical examples strengthened Hezekiah's faith to resist Assyria, trusting God rather than surrendering or seeking foreign alliances.

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Study Questions

1. How do God's past deliverances provide a pattern for trusting Him in present crises?
2. What does God's use of miraculous intervention teach about the futility of trusting human strength?
3. How can we strengthen our faith by remembering God's faithfulness in biblical history?

Interlinear Text

שׁוֹט	צְבָאוֹת	יְהוָה	עַל יוֹ	וְעוֹרָר
shall stir up	And the LORD	of hosts	a scourge	
H5782	H3068	H6635	H5921	H7752
וַיִּמָּט הוּא	עוֹרֵב בַּ	בַּצּוֹר	מִדְיָן	כְּמִכַּת
for him according to the slaughter	of Midian	at the rock	of Oreb	and as his rod
H4294	H6159	H6697	H4080	H4347
מִצְרַיִם:	בְּדֶרֶךְ	וַיִּשָּׂא וְ	הַיָּם	עַל
after the manner	of Egypt	so shall he lift it up	was upon the sea	
H1870	H4714	H5375	H3220	H5921

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 9:4 (Parallel theme): For thou hast broken the yoke of his burden, and the staff of his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, as in the day of Midian.

Judges 7:25 (Parallel theme): And they took two princes of the Midianites, Oreb and Zeeb; and they slew Oreb upon the rock Oreb, and Zeeb they slew at the winepress of Zeeb, and pursued Midian, and brought the heads of Oreb and Zeeb to Gideon on the other side Jordan.

2 Kings 19:35 (References Lord): And it came to pass that night, that the angel of the LORD went out, and smote in the camp of the Assyrians an hundred fourscore and five thousand: and when they arose early in the morning, behold, they were all dead corpses.

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