

Joshua 24:6

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And I brought your fathers out of Egypt: and ye came unto the sea; and the Egyptians pursued after your fathers with chariots and horsemen unto the Red sea.

Analysis

I brought your fathers out of Egypt (וַיָּאֹזֶן אֶת-אֲבֹתֵיכֶם מִמִּצְרַיִם)—the Exodus becomes the paradigmatic redemption event, foreshadowing Christ's greater deliverance. The verb yatsa (יצא, to bring out/lead forth) in the causative form emphasizes God's initiative in liberation. Israel did not escape; God brought them out.

The Egyptians pursued after your fathers with chariots and horsemen unto the Red sea—the mention of rechev (רְכֵב, chariots) and parashim (פָּרָשִׁים, horsemen) highlights Egyptian military superiority. Israel, a slave rabble, faced Egypt's elite chariot corps—the ancient world's most formidable military technology. The phrase Yam Suph (יָם-סוּף, Red Sea, literally 'Sea of Reeds') marks the site of God's climactic deliverance. This impossible situation—trapped between Pharaoh's army and the sea—sets the stage for God's power display. Salvation comes not through human strength but divine intervention alone.

Historical Context

The Exodus occurred around 1446 BC (early date) or 1260 BC (late date). Egyptian chariots, introduced during the Hyksos period, dominated ancient warfare. Archaeological evidence from Pharaoh Rameses II's reign shows massive chariot forces. Israel's pursuit to the Red Sea (traditionally identified with the Gulf of Suez or Gulf of Aqaba, though some scholars suggest the Bitter Lakes region)

demonstrated Egypt's determination to recapture their slave labor force. The dramatic rescue at the sea became Israel's foundational salvation story, celebrated annually at Passover.

Related Passages

John 3:16 – God's love and salvation

Ephesians 2:8 – Salvation by grace through faith

Study Questions

1. How does the Exodus ('I brought your fathers out') serve as the Old Testament paradigm for Christ's greater redemption?
2. What does Egypt's pursuit with superior military technology teach about spiritual enemies and human helplessness?
3. Why does Scripture repeatedly rehearse the Exodus story as the foundation of Israel's identity and God's saving character?

Interlinear Text

וְאֵלֶּא יָאַתָּה	מִמִּצְרָיִם	אֶת-אֲבוֹתֶיךָ מִן	וְאֶת-אַתָּה	וְאֶת-אַתָּה	וְאֶת-אַתָּה	וְאֶת-אַתָּה	וְאֶת-אַתָּה	וְאֶת-אַתָּה
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H3318		H1	H4714	H935	H3220			H7291

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