

Judges 6:8

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

That the LORD sent a prophet unto the children of Israel, which said unto them, Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, I brought you up from Egypt, and brought you forth out of the house of bondage;

Analysis

The prophet recounts God's historical interventions: bringing Israel from Egypt, delivering from bondage, driving out enemies, and giving them the land. The comprehensive scope—'all that oppressed you'—emphasizes God's total faithfulness. The verb 'drove them out' (agaresh, אָגַרַשׁ) uses the same word as the original conquest promises (Exodus 23:28-31), highlighting continuity between God's past and promised future actions. This recital serves as covenant lawsuit preamble—establishing the suzerain's beneficence before charging the vassal with treaty violation.

Historical Context

This prophetic speech follows ancient Near Eastern treaty patterns where suzerains would list their beneficial acts toward vassals before declaring treaty violations. The Hittite suzerainty treaties (14th-13th centuries BCE) particularly demonstrate this structure. God's covenant with Israel follows similar form but with crucial differences: God's faithfulness is absolute, and His demands flow from grace rather than mere political expedience.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Study Questions

1. How should remembering God's past saving acts affect our response to His current commands?
2. In what ways do you minimize God's historical faithfulness when justifying present disobedience?
3. How does understanding salvation history (from Egypt to Canaan) parallel the Christian's salvation journey from sin to sanctification?

Interlinear Text

וְשָׁלַח	יְהוָה הוּא	אֵשׁ	נָבִיא	אֵל	בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל
sent	That the LORD	a prophet	H5030	H413	unto the children of Israel
H7971	H3068	H376			H1121 H3478
אֲמַר	כֹּה לֵאמֹר	אֲמַר	יְהוָה הוּא	אֱלֹהֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל	
unto them Thus saith	H0 H3541	unto them Thus saith	That the LORD	God	
H559		H559	H3068	H430	
יְשָׁאֵל	אֲנִי	הֵעֵל יָדִי	אֶתְכֶם	מִמִּצְרַיִם	וְאֵצֶּי
of Israel	H595	I brought you up	H853	from Egypt	and brought you forth
H3478		H5927		H4714	H3318
אֶתְּךָ	מִבֵּית	עֲבָדִים:			
H853	out of the house	of bondage			
	H1004	H5650			