

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, אָגָרֵשׁ) 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

ישָׁבָא ל בְּנֵי יִהְיֵה הָנָשָׁל כ
sent That the LORD a prophet unto the children of Israel
H7971 H3068 H376 H5030 H413 H1121 H3478

אֶתְּנָה ר אֶתְּנָה מ כִּי לְבָנָה
unto them Thus saith unto them Thus saith That the LORD God
H559 H3541 H559 H3068 H430

תִּאֵצֵא יְאֵצֵא ל אָנָכִי אֶתְּנָה מ מִמִּצְרָיִם
of Israel H595 I brought you up from Egypt and brought you forth
H3478 H5927 H853 H4714 H3318

אָתְּנָה מ בְּיַת עֲבָדִים
out of the house of bondage
H853 H1004 H5650