

Numbers 20:16

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And when we cried unto the LORD, he heard our voice, and sent an angel, and hath brought us forth out of Egypt: and, behold, we are in Kadesh, a city in the uttermost of thy border:

Analysis

Moses described God's deliverance: 'when we cried unto the LORD, he heard our voice, and sent an angel, and hath brought us forth out of Egypt.' This testimony to God's intervention explained Israel's journey and implied divine authority for their request. Acknowledging God's past faithfulness in our requests demonstrates that we seek His continued guidance.

Historical Context

The 'angel' references the Angel of the LORD who led Israel (Exodus 14:19, 23:20-23). This designation emphasized that their journey had divine approval and protection. Moses' appeal suggested that opposing Israel meant opposing the God who delivered and guided them.

Related Passages

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. How does recounting God's past faithfulness strengthen present petitions?
2. What past deliverances should inform your current requests?

Interlinear Text

מֶלֶךְ	וַיַּשְׁלַח	וְנִשְׁלַח	כִּי	כִּי	וְיִשְׁאַל	וְיִתְּאַלֵּךְ	וְיִתְּאַלֵּךְ	וְיִתְּאַלֵּךְ	וְיִתְּאַלֵּךְ	וְיִתְּאַלֵּךְ	וְיִתְּאַלֵּךְ
And when we cried	unto the LORD	he heard	our voice	and sent	an angel						
H6817	H3068	H8085	H6963	H7971	H4397						
וְיִצְאָה כָּא	מִמִּצְרַיִם	וְיִהְפַּךְ כָּא	וְיִהְפַּךְ כָּא								
and hath brought us forth	out of Egypt										
H3318	H4714	H2009	H587								
וְיִתְּהַלֵּךְ שְׁבָדֵל שְׁבָדֵל	וְיִתְּהַלֵּךְ הַלְּבָדֵל	וְיִתְּהַלֵּךְ יְרֵאָה	וְיִתְּהַלֵּךְ כָּלָבְדָּל								
and behold we are in Kadesh	a city	in the uttermost	of thy border								
H6946	H5892	H7097	H1366								

Additional Cross-References

Exodus 14:19 (Parallel theme): And the angel of God, which went before the camp of Israel, removed and went behind them; and the pillar of the cloud went from before their face, and stood behind them:

Exodus 23:20 (Parallel theme): Behold, I send an Angel before thee, to keep thee in the way, and to bring thee into the place which I have prepared.

Exodus 33:2 (Parallel theme): And I will send an angel before thee; and I will drive out the Canaanite, the Amorite, and the Hittite, and the Perizzite, the Hivite, and the Jebusite: