

Numbers 23:22

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

God brought them out of Egypt; he hath as it were the strength of an unicorn.

Analysis

Balaam continues 'God brought them out of Egypt; he hath as it were the strength of an unicorn.' The 'unicorn' (Hebrew 're'em', likely wild ox) symbolized untamable strength. God's deliverance from Egypt demonstrated His irresistible power on Israel's behalf. This redemptive act formed the foundation of Israel's identity and security—they belonged to the God who broke Pharaoh's power.

Historical Context

The Exodus was Israel's defining moment, establishing God as their Redeemer and King. References to leaving Egypt appear throughout Scripture as assurance of God's faithfulness (Deuteronomy 5:6, Hosea 11:1, Matthew 2:15).

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. How does remembering God's past redemptive acts provide confidence for present challenges?
2. What is your 'exodus moment' that defines your relationship with God?

Interlinear Text

רַא	מִ	פָּתֹעַ	תִּ	מִמִּצְרַיִם	מִ	מִצְרַיִם	בָּ	וְ	בָּ	וְ	בָּ				
God	brought	them	out	of	Egypt	he	hath	as	it	were	the	strength	of	an	unicorn
H410					H3318							H8443			H7214

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Additional Cross-References

Deuteronomy 33:17 (Parallel theme): His glory is like the firstling of his bullock, and his horns are like the horns of unicorns: with them he shall push the people together to the ends of the earth: and they are the ten thousands of Ephraim, and they are the thousands of Manasseh.

Numbers 24:8 (References God): God brought him forth out of Egypt; he hath as it were the strength of an unicorn: he shall eat up the nations his enemies, and shall break their bones, and pierce them through with his arrows.

Psalms 22:21 (Parallel theme): Save me from the lion's mouth: for thou hast heard me from the horns of the unicorns.

Exodus 20:2 (References God): I am the LORD thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.

Psalms 92:10 (Parallel theme): But my horn shalt thou exalt like the horn of an unicorn: I shall be anointed with fresh oil.

Psalms 68:35 (References God): O God, thou art terrible out of thy holy places: the God of Israel is he that giveth strength and power unto his people. Blessed be God.

Exodus 14:18 (References Egypt): And the Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD, when I have gotten me honour upon Pharaoh, upon his chariots, and upon his horsemen.

Exodus 9:16 (Parallel theme): And in very deed for this cause have I raised thee up, for to shew in thee my power; and that my name may be declared throughout all the earth.

Numbers 22:5 (References Egypt): He sent messengers therefore unto Balaam the son of Beor to Pethor, which is by the river of the land of the children of his people, to call him, saying, Behold, there is a people come out from Egypt: behold, they cover the face of the earth, and they abide over against me: