

# Numbers 33:3

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And they departed from Rameses in the first month, on the fifteenth day of the first month; on the morrow after the passover the children of Israel went out with an high hand in the sight of all the Egyptians.

## Analysis

The departure from Rameses 'in the first month, on the fifteenth day of the first month' marks Passover morning, the day after the lamb was slain and eaten. The exodus began 'with an high hand' (boldly, openly, defiantly) demonstrating that God's deliverance was public and unmistakable. The phrase 'in the sight of all the Egyptians' emphasizes that this was witnessed redemption, not secret escape. The Reformed doctrine of visible, public profession of faith finds precedent here—our redemption is not private but testified before the watching world.

## Historical Context

The fifteenth day of the first month became Israel's independence day, commemorated annually at Passover. The bold daylight departure, after 430 years of slavery, demonstrated God's power over Egypt's gods and Pharaoh's authority. The public nature of the exodus meant Egypt witnessed their defeat and Israel's vindication. No one could later claim this deliverance was hidden or ambiguous.

## Related Passages

**Ephesians 2:8** — Salvation by grace through faith

## **John 3:16 — God's love and salvation**

## **Hebrews 11:1 – Definition of faith**

**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

## Study Questions

1. How does public, witnessed deliverance strengthen faith and testimony?
2. What does leaving 'with a high hand' teach about confidence in God's salvation?
3. In what ways should Christian testimony be bold and public rather than private and hidden?

## Interlinear Text

וַיָּעֹשֶׂה	בְּחִמְשָׁה	הַרְאָשׁ	וְזֶה	לְחַדְשָׁה	מְרַעֲמַס	וְיִשְׁעָה
And they departed	from Rameses	month	in the first			H2568
H5265	H7486	H2320	H7223			
וְיִשְׁעָה	רַקְעָב	לְחַדְשָׁה	וְזֶה	לְחַדְשָׁה	וְזֶה	הַפְּסַח
on the fifteenth	day	month	in the first	on the morrow	after the passover	
H6240	H3117	H2320	H7223	H4283		H6453
וְיִצְאָה	בְּנֵי	יִשְׂרָאֵל	בְּנֵי	בְּמִתְחַדָּה	לְעֵינֵי	כָּל
went out	the children	of Israel	hand	with an high	in the sight	
H3318	H1121	H3478	H3027	H7311	H5869	H3605

## Additional Cross-References

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**Exodus 14:8** (References Israel): And the LORD hardened the heart of Pharaoh king of Egypt, and he pursued after the children of Israel: and the children of Israel went out with an high hand.

**Exodus 13:4** (Parallel theme): This day came ye out in the month Abib.

**Exodus 12:37** (References Israel): And the children of Israel journeyed from Rameses to Succoth, about six hundred thousand on foot that were men, beside children.

**Isaiah 52:12** (References Israel): For ye shall not go out with haste, nor go by flight: for the LORD will go before you; and the God of Israel will be your rereward.

**Psalms 105:38** (References Egypt): Egypt was glad when they departed: for the fear of them fell upon them.

**Exodus 12:2** (Parallel theme): This month shall be unto you the beginning of months: it shall be the first month of the year to you.

**Genesis 47:11** (References Egypt): And Joseph placed his father and his brethren, and gave them a possession in the land of Egypt, in the best of the land, in the land of Rameses, as Pharaoh had commanded.

**Micah 2:13** (Parallel theme): The breaker is come up before them: they have broken up, and have passed through the gate, and are gone out by it: and their king shall pass before them, and the LORD on the head of them.