

Psalms 105:24

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And he increased his people greatly; and made them stronger than their enemies.

Analysis

God 'increased his people greatly' and made them 'stronger than their enemies.' Israel's multiplication in Egypt fulfilled God's promise to Abraham (Gen 15:5). Their numerical growth occurred in hostile territory, demonstrating God's blessing despite opposition. Becoming 'stronger' (atsam) than Egyptians eventually threatened Pharaoh, leading to oppression. Yet this growth was necessary for nationhood. Christ promised His church would grow and hell's gates wouldn't prevail against it (Matt 16:18). The Reformed understanding of God's sovereignty recognizes He builds His people despite opposition.

Historical Context

Exodus 1:7-12 describes Israel's explosive population growth in Egypt, from 70 to perhaps 2-3 million by the Exodus. This growth alarmed the Egyptians and led to their enslavement.

Related Passages

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. How does God's ability to multiply His people in hostile environments encourage you about the church's growth?
2. What does Israel's strengthening in Egypt teach about God's blessing even in difficult circumstances?

Interlinear Text

וַיִּכְרַ	אֶת	עַמּוֹ	חֲדָד	וַיַּעֲצִמְהוּ
And he increased	H853	his people	greatly	and made them stronger
H6509		H5971	H3966	H6105

מֵאֹיְבָיו:
than their enemies
H6862

Additional Cross-References

Deuteronomy 26:5 (Parallel theme): And thou shalt speak and say before the LORD thy God, A Syrian ready to perish was my father, and he went down into Egypt, and sojourned there with a few, and became there a nation, great, mighty, and populous: