

Psalms 105:33

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

He smote their vines also and their fig trees; and brake the trees of their coasts.

Analysis

This verse continues describing the hail plague's devastation. Vines and fig trees represented Egypt's agricultural wealth and stability. The verb 'smote' (nakah, נִקָּה) means to strike, beat, or destroy—the same word used for divine judgment throughout Scripture. 'Brake' translates shabar (שָׁבַר), meaning to shatter or break in pieces. The completeness of destruction ('trees of their coasts') shows God's judgment was comprehensive, not selective. This teaches that when God judges, no human security or wealth can provide refuge. Egypt's economic infrastructure was systematically dismantled to demonstrate that prosperity comes from God alone.

Historical Context

Vines and fig trees symbolized peace and prosperity in ancient Near Eastern culture (1 Kings 4:25, Micah 4:4). Destroying these was an act of economic warfare, undermining Egypt's sense of security. For Israel recounting this history, it served as a warning: the same God who judged Egypt for oppression would judge them if they broke covenant (Deuteronomy 28:38-42).

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Study Questions

1. What 'vines and fig trees' (symbols of prosperity) do we trust more than God?
2. How does God's comprehensive judgment reveal the futility of earthly security?
3. In what ways should God's economic judgments inform our view of wealth and stewardship?

Interlinear Text

גָּבְּלָם: עַזְּעַזְלָם
וַיִּשְׁבַּרְאַת מִגְּפָנָם וַיִּתְאַנְתֵּן מִגְּפָנָם
He smote their vines also and their fig trees and brake the trees of their coasts
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