

1 Chronicles 16:24

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Declare his glory among the heathen; his marvellous works among all nations.

Analysis

Declare his glory among the heathen; his marvellous works among all nations—The Hebrew *sapperu* ('declare/recount') carries missionary force: proclaim, narrate, tell forth. David's psalm commands testifying to God's *kabod* ('glory'—His weighty, manifest presence) among the *goyim* ('nations/gentiles'). This is Great Commission language 1,000 years before Christ.

The 'marvellous works' (*niphle'otav*) refer to God's supernatural interventions—creation, exodus, conquest. Israel's worship should overflow into witness. Paul quotes this psalm in Romans 15:11 to justify gentile mission: God always intended Israel's worship to inspire universal praise. Missions isn't New Testament innovation but Abrahamic covenant fulfillment (Gen 12:3).

Historical Context

This verse (also Psalm 96:3) reveals Israel's missionary mandate. Though Israel often failed to embrace it, the vision persisted: Jerusalem as light to nations (Isaiah 49:6). Jesus' missionary commission realizes this Old Testament vision.

Related Passages

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. How does your worship naturally overflow into witness about God's glory?
2. What 'marvellous works' of God should you be declaring among your neighbors and nations?

Interlinear Text

סִפֹּר וְ	בְּגוֹיִם	אֶת	כְּבוֹד וְ	בְּכָל	הָעַמִּים
Declare	among the heathen	H853	his glory	H3605	among all nations
H5608	H1471		H3519		H5971

נִפְלְאוֹתָיו:
his marvellous works
H6381

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 22:27 (Parallel theme): All the ends of the world shall remember and turn unto the LORD: and all the kindreds of the nations shall worship before thee.

2 Kings 19:19 (Parallel theme): Now therefore, O LORD our God, I beseech thee, save thou us out of his hand, that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that thou art the LORD God, even thou only.