

Acts 2:28

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Thou hast made known to me the ways of life; thou shalt make me full of joy with thy countenance.

Analysis

God making known 'the ways of life' refers to resurrection as the path to eternal life. The plural 'ways' (Greek 'hodos') suggests multiple aspects: Christ's resurrection way becomes our way (John 14:6). The promise of being filled 'with joy with thy countenance' anticipates eternal beatific vision - beholding God's face producing infinite satisfaction. This joy surpasses circumstantial happiness, rooted in God's presence, not world's pleasures.

Historical Context

Psalm 16's conclusion envisions ultimate fellowship with God, transcending Old Testament shadows. Peter reveals this finds fulfillment not in David's life but in Christ's resurrection and believers' union with Him. The 'fulness of joy' contrasts with partial joys experienced in this age.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Study Questions

1. How does anticipating God's unveiled presence ('thy countenance') sustain you through present trials?
2. What does resurrection as 'the way of life' teach about salvation's comprehensive nature beyond mere forgiveness?

Interlinear Text

ἐγνώρισάς	μοι	ὁδοὺς	ζωῆς	πληρώσεις	με
Thou hast made known	to me	the ways	of life	full	me
G1107	G3427	G3598	G2222	G4137	G3165
εὐφροσύνης	μετὰ	τοῦ	προσώπου	σου	
of joy	with	G3588	countenance	thy	
G2167	G3326		G4383	G4675	

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 16:11 (Parallel theme): Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore.

Psalms 21:6 (Creation): For thou hast made him most blessed for ever: thou hast made him exceeding glad with thy countenance.

Hebrews 12:2 (Parallel theme): Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Psalms 17:15 (Parallel theme): As for me, I will behold thy face in righteousness: I shall be satisfied, when I awake, with thy likeness.

Psalms 25:4 (Parallel theme): Shew me thy ways, O LORD; teach me thy paths.

Psalms 42:5 (Parallel theme): Why art thou cast down, O my soul? and why art thou disquieted in me? hope thou in God: for I shall yet praise him for the help of his countenance.

Proverbs 2:19 (Parallel theme): None that go unto her return again, neither take they hold of the paths of life.

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