

Daniel 10:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And I Daniel alone saw the vision: for the men that were with me saw not the vision; but a great quaking fell upon them, so that they fled to hide themselves.

Analysis

Daniel alone saw the vision while his companions didn't see it but 'a great quaking fell upon them, so that they fled to hide themselves.' This selective visibility parallels Paul's Damascus road experience (Acts 9:7, 22:9)—the divine encounter affects all present but reveals itself fully only to the chosen recipient. The companions' terror without seeing demonstrates that spiritual realities produce physical/emotional effects even on those not receiving direct revelation. Reformed theology affirms both common and special grace: God's general presence affects all, while special revelation targets specific recipients for specific purposes. The companions' fleeing shows appropriate response to divine presence, even when not fully perceiving it. Daniel's isolation emphasizes his unique prophetic calling.

Historical Context

By this point (c. 536 BC), Daniel had served in Babylon approximately 70 years, from teenager to old age. His companions likely included fellow Jewish exiles—possibly also governmental officials or servants. The selective nature of the vision (Daniel sees, others only sense terror) established prophetic patterns seen throughout Scripture: Moses alone approached the burning bush while shepherds tended flocks nearby; Isaiah alone saw the throne room while Jerusalem bustled around the temple; Paul alone received the Damascus revelation while companions heard sound but saw nothing. This pattern validates genuine revelation's

transcendent source—not mass hallucination or natural phenomenon but sovereign divine disclosure to chosen recipients.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. What does selective visibility of divine revelation teach about God's sovereign choice in special revelation?
2. How do the companions' terror without seeing demonstrate spiritual realities affect even those not receiving direct revelation?
3. Why does God reveal Himself fully to specific individuals while others only sense His presence?

Interlinear Text

וְהָאֲנָשִׁים	הַמֶּרְאֶה	אֶת	לְבַדִּי	דָּנִי אֶל	אֲנִי	כָּאֵל
for the men	not the vision	H853	H905	And I Daniel	H589	alone saw
H582	H4759			H1840		H7200
חִכְדָּה	אֲבָל	הַמֶּרְאֶה	אֶת	כָּאֵל	לֹא	עִמִּי הִיא
quaking	but	not the vision	H853	alone saw	H3808	H1961
H2731	H61	H4759		H7200		H834
בְּהִתְבָּא:	וַיִּבְרְחוּ	עָלֶיהָ	מִן	נָפְלָה	גְּדֹלָה	
to hide	upon them so that they fled			fell	a great	
H2244	H1272			H5307	H1419	
				H5921		

Additional Cross-References

Acts 9:7 (Parallel theme): And the men which journeyed with him stood speechless, hearing a voice, but seeing no man.

Acts 22:9 (Parallel theme): And they that were with me saw indeed the light, and were afraid; but they heard not the voice of him that spake to me.

Genesis 3:10 (Parallel theme): And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.

Hebrews 12:21 (Parallel theme): And so terrible was the sight, that Moses said, I exceedingly fear and quake:)

Isaiah 2:10 (Parallel theme): Enter into the rock, and hide thee in the dust, for fear of the LORD, and for the glory of his majesty.

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