

Daniel 2:20

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Daniel answered and said, Blessed be the name of God for ever and ever: for wisdom and might are his:

Analysis

Daniel's doxology 'Blessed be the name of God for ever and ever' begins his worship response to answered prayer. The phrase 'for ever and ever' (Hebrew: *min olam v'ad olam*, from eternity to eternity) proclaims God's eternal nature. Attributing 'wisdom and might' to God emphasizes His comprehensive sovereignty—He knows all things (wisdom) and controls all things (might). This combination means God both understands and accomplishes His purposes without limitation. Daniel's worship focuses entirely on God's character rather than the personal benefit of receiving revelation.

Historical Context

Jewish doxological prayers typically blessed God's name, acknowledging His attributes and deeds. This form appears throughout Scripture (cf. Psalm 41:13; 106:48; 1 Chronicles 29:10-13). The dual attribution of wisdom and might reflects ancient Near Eastern royal ideology—kings claimed wisdom to govern and might to conquer. Daniel ascribes these supremely to God, implicitly subordinating all earthly kings including Nebuchadnezzar.

Related Passages

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. How does focusing worship on God's eternal character rather than His temporal blessings demonstrate mature faith?
2. What does combining wisdom and might in God's character teach about His perfect knowledge and sovereign power working together?

Interlinear Text

עֲנֵה	דָּנִיֵּאל	וַאֲמַר	לֵהוּ אֵל	שְׁמֵהּ	דִּי	אֱלֹהֵא	מְבָרַךְ
answered	Daniel	and said	be	the name	H1768	of God	Blessed
H6032	H1841	H560	H1934	H8036		H426	H1289
מִן	עַלְמָא	וְעַד	עַלְמָא	דִּי	חִכְמָתָא	וְגִבּוּרָתָא	לֵהּ
for	ever	and ever	ever	H1768	for wisdom	and might	H1768 H0
H4481	H5957	H5705	H5957		H2452	H1370	

הֵיא:

are

H1932

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 113:2 (Blessing): Blessed be the name of the LORD from this time forth and for evermore.

Revelation 5:12 (Blessing): Saying with a loud voice, Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing.

Psalms 147:5 (Parallel theme): Great is our Lord, and of great power: his understanding is infinite.

Job 12:13 (Parallel theme): With him is wisdom and strength, he hath counsel and understanding.

Jeremiah 32:19 (Parallel theme): Great in counsel, and mighty in work: for thine eyes are open upon all the ways of the sons of men: to give every one according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings:

Jude 1:24 (Parallel theme): Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy,

Psalms 115:18 (Blessing): But we will bless the LORD from this time forth and for evermore. Praise the LORD.

Proverbs 8:14 (Parallel theme): Counsel is mine, and sound wisdom: I am understanding; I have strength.

1 Kings 8:56 (Blessing): Blessed be the LORD, that hath given rest unto his people Israel, according to all that he promised: there hath not failed one word of all his good promise, which he promised by the hand of Moses his servant.