

Deuteronomy 11:12

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

A land which the LORD thy God careth for: the eyes of the LORD thy God are always upon it, from the beginning of the year even unto the end of the year.

Analysis

The land is described as one 'which the LORD thy God careth for' using the Hebrew *darash* (דָּרַשׁ), meaning to seek, inquire after, or care for diligently. This isn't passive observation but active providence. The phrase 'the eyes of the LORD thy God are always upon it' indicates continuous divine attention from 'the beginning of the year even unto the end.' This anthropomorphic language emphasizes God's personal, ongoing involvement. However, verse 13-17 clarify this care is conditional on covenant obedience—blessing for faithfulness, curse for idolatry. Divine providence operates within covenant framework.

Historical Context

This divine care distinguished Israel from surrounding nations whose gods required constant appeasement but offered no reliable providence. Baal worship, dominant in Canaan, claimed the storm god controlled rain—but Yahweh demonstrates He alone governs weather. The agricultural calendar (Gezer Calendar, c. 925 BC) shows year-round agricultural activity requiring divine blessing at each stage: plowing, sowing, harvesting, pruning.

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Study Questions

1. How does knowing God continuously watches over your circumstances affect daily anxiety?
2. What is the difference between God's providential care and guaranteed prosperity gospel?
3. How should we understand suffering or loss in light of God's promise to 'care for' His people?

Interlinear Text

אֶרֶץ	אֲשֶׁר	יְהוָה	אֱלֹהִים	דָּרְשָׁה	אֶת	פָּמָן
A land	H834	of the LORD	thy God	careth for	H853	are always
H776		H3068	H430	H1875		H8548
עֵינָיו	יְהוָה	אֱלֹהִים	בְּהָדֳעָה	מִרְשִׁית	שָׁנָה:	
the eyes	of the LORD	thy God	H0	upon it from the beginning	of the year	
H5869	H3068	H430		H7225		H8141
וְעַד	אַחֲרֵי	יתְהִגָּה:				
H5704	even unto the end	of the year				
	H319	H8141				

Additional Cross-References

Jeremiah 24:6 (Parallel theme): For I will set mine eyes upon them for good, and I will bring them again to this land: and I will build them, and not pull them down; and I will plant them, and not pluck them up.

1 Kings 9:3 (References Lord): And the LORD said unto him, I have heard thy prayer and thy supplication, that thou hast made before me: I have hallowed this house, which thou hast built, to put my name there for ever; and mine eyes and mine heart shall be there perpetually.

Psalms 33:18 (References Lord): Behold, the eye of the LORD is upon them that fear him, upon them that hope in his mercy;

Psalms 34:15 (References Lord): The eyes of the LORD are upon the righteous, and his ears are open unto their cry.

Ezra 5:5 (References God): But the eye of their God was upon the elders of the Jews, that they could not cause them to cease, till the matter came to Darius: and then they returned answer by letter concerning this matter.

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