

Deuteronomy 28:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And all people of the earth shall see that thou art called by the name of the LORD; and they shall be afraid of thee.

Analysis

And all people of the earth shall see that thou art called by the name of the LORD; and they shall be afraid of thee. Covenant blessing produces visible testimony - all people of the earth shall see. Israel's relationship with God and resulting flourishing would be evident to watching nations, demonstrating the reality and power of the true God.

Being called by the name of the LORD indicates identification and ownership. Israel belongs to Yahweh, bearing His name as wife bears husband's name. This relationship creates both privilege (divine protection) and responsibility (representing God faithfully).

The result they shall be afraid of thee indicates that nations would respect and fear Israel, not because of Israel's inherent power but because of their association with the Almighty God. Fear here combines dread, awe, and reluctance to oppose.

This missional purpose - displaying God's character to nations - continues for the church. Christians bear Christ's name and should live in ways that cause the world to glorify God (Matthew 5:16).

Historical Context

When Israel walked faithfully, surrounding nations did fear them - Rahab testified that terror of Israel fell on Canaanites because of what God had done (Joshua

2:9-11). Israel's God-given victories created international reputation.

When Israel disobeyed, they became objects of derision rather than respect, and God's name was blasphemed among the nations (Ezekiel 36:20-23).

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Study Questions

1. What does visible testimony to watching nations teach about covenant blessing's purpose?
2. How does bearing God's name create both privilege and responsibility?
3. Why would nations fear Israel - because of Israel's strength or God's power?
4. How does the church continue this missional purpose of displaying God to the world?
5. What happens when God's people disobey and cause His name to be blasphemed?

Interlinear Text

יִרְאוּ shall see H7200	כָּל H3605	עַמִּי And all people H5971	הָאָרֶץ of the earth H776	בְּ H3588	שְׁמִי by the name H8034	יְהוָה of the LORD H3068
נִקְרָא that thou art called H7121	עַל H5921	וְיִרְאוּ and they shall be afraid H3372	מִמֶּנִּי H4480			

Additional Cross-References

2 Chronicles 7:14 (Parallel theme): If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.

Deuteronomy 11:25 (References Lord): There shall no man be able to stand before you: for the LORD your God shall lay the fear of you and the dread of you upon all the land that ye shall tread upon, as he hath said unto you.

Jeremiah 33:9 (Parallel theme): And it shall be to me a name of joy, a praise and an honour before all the nations of the earth, which shall hear all the good that I do unto them: and they shall fear and tremble for all the goodness and for all the prosperity that I procure unto it.

1 Chronicles 14:17 (References Lord): And the fame of David went out into all lands; and the LORD brought the fear of him upon all nations.

Numbers 6:27 (Parallel theme): And they shall put my name upon the children of Israel; and I will bless them.

Exodus 12:33 (Parallel theme): And the Egyptians were urgent upon the people, that they might send them out of the land in haste; for they said, We be all dead men.

Exodus 14:25 (References Lord): And took off their chariot wheels, that they drave them heavily: so that the Egyptians said, Let us flee from the face of Israel; for the LORD fighteth for them against the Egyptians.

Joshua 5:1 (References Lord): And it came to pass, when all the kings of the Amorites, which were on the side of Jordan westward, and all the kings of the Canaanites, which were by the sea, heard that the LORD had dried up the waters of Jordan from before the children of Israel, until we were passed over, that their heart melted, neither was there spirit in them any more, because of the children of Israel.

Malachi 3:12 (References Lord): And all nations shall call you blessed: for ye shall be a delightsome land, saith the LORD of hosts.

