

Deuteronomy 30:4

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

If any of thine be driven out unto the outmost parts of heaven, from thence will the LORD thy God gather thee, and from thence will he fetch thee:

Analysis

If any of thine be driven out unto the outmost parts of heaven, from thence will the LORD thy God gather thee, and from thence will he fetch thee. The extreme language outmost parts of heaven indicates no distance is too great for God's restorative power. Even if Israel is scattered to earth's farthest reaches, God will gather them back.

The double emphasis gather thee...fetch thee stresses God's personal, active role in restoration. He doesn't merely permit return but actively collects and retrieves scattered people. This is divine initiative in restoration, not human achievement.

This promise demonstrates that no exile is permanent, no scattering is irreversible when God purposes restoration. Human dispersing power cannot overcome divine gathering power.

This principle applies spiritually - Christ will gather His elect from four winds, from one end of heaven to the other (Matthew 24:31). No distance prevents God from calling and gathering His chosen people.

Historical Context

Jewish communities existed throughout the ancient and medieval world - Babylon, Persia, Egypt, North Africa, Europe. Despite two millennia of dispersion, Jewish

identity persisted and modern Israel was reestablished.

This preservation of distinct identity despite worldwide scattering is itself miraculous, testifying to divine preservation for future fulfillment of covenant promises.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. What does 'outmost parts of heaven' teach about the scope of God's gathering power?
2. How does God's active fetching differ from merely permitting return?
3. What does this teach about divine power versus human scattering?
4. How does Christ's gathering of the elect parallel this promise?
5. What does Jewish survival through millennia of dispersion testify about divine preservation?

Interlinear Text

אִם	יְהִי ה'	נִדְחָךְ	בְּקֵצַי ה'	הַשָּׁמַיִם
H518	H1961	If any of thine be driven out	unto the outmost	parts of heaven
		H5080	H7097	H8064
וּמִשָּׁם	יִקְבְּצֶנּוּ	יְהִי ה'	אֱלֹהֶיךָ	וּמִשָּׁם
H8033	gather	from thence will the LORD	thy God	H8033
	H6908	H3068	H430	
	יִקְחֶנּוּ			
	thee and from thence will he fetch			
	H3947			

Additional Cross-References

Nehemiah 1:9 (Parallel theme): But if ye turn unto me, and keep my commandments, and do them; though there were of you cast out unto the uttermost part of the heaven, yet will I gather them from thence, and will bring them unto the place that I have chosen to set my name there.

Isaiah 43:6 (Parallel theme): I will say to the north, Give up; and to the south, Keep not back: bring my sons from far, and my daughters from the ends of the earth;

Deuteronomy 28:64 (References God): And the LORD shall scatter thee among all people, from the one end of the earth even unto the other; and there thou shalt serve other gods, which neither thou nor thy fathers have known, even wood and stone.