

Deuteronomy 32:3

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Because I will publish the name of the LORD: ascribe ye greatness unto our God.

Analysis

In the Song of Moses, he declares: 'Because I will publish the name of the LORD: ascribe ye greatness unto our God.' The verb 'publish' (Hebrew *qara*) means proclaim, announce, or call out—public declaration of God's name (character/reputation). Moses calls the audience to 'ascribe greatness'—attribute to God His rightful glory and honor. The song that follows (Deuteronomy 32:4-43) rehearses Israel's history and God's faithfulness, demonstrating why He deserves proclamation and praise. Worship begins with recognizing and declaring God's character.

Historical Context

The Song of Moses served as Israel's witness against future apostasy (Deuteronomy 31:19-21). When Israel rebelled, this song would testify to God's faithfulness and their faithlessness. Moses taught the song to all Israel (Deuteronomy 31:22), ensuring memorization and transmission. The song is quoted in Romans 10:19, 12:19, and 15:10, and echoed in Revelation 15:3. Its enduring message: God's character deserves proclamation, and His dealings with humanity vindicate His justice.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. How does publicly proclaiming God's name (character) strengthen both personal faith and corporate witness?
2. What aspects of God's greatness most need declaration in your cultural context?

Interlinear Text

כִּי	שֵׁם	יְהוָה	אֶקְרֹא	קְבוּ	גִדְלוֹ
H3588	the name	of the LORD	Because I will publish	ascribe	ye greatness
	H8034	H3068	H7121	H3051	H1433

לְאֵלֵינוּ:
unto our God
H430

Additional Cross-References

Jeremiah 10:6 (References Lord): Forasmuch as there is none like unto thee, O LORD; thou art great, and thy name is great in might.

Psalms 150:2 (Parallel theme): Praise him for his mighty acts: praise him according to his excellent greatness.

Ephesians 1:19 (Parallel theme): And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power,

Deuteronomy 5:24 (References God): And ye said, Behold, the LORD our God hath shewed us his glory and his greatness, and we have heard his voice out of the midst of the fire: we have seen this day that God doth talk with man, and he liveth.

Jeremiah 23:6 (References Lord): In his days Judah shall be saved, and Israel shall dwell safely: and this is his name whereby he shall be called, THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.

Exodus 33:19 (References Lord): And he said, I will make all my goodness pass before thee, and I will proclaim the name of the LORD before thee; and will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will shew mercy on whom I will shew mercy.

Exodus 6:3 (References God): And I appeared unto Abraham, unto Isaac, and unto Jacob, by the name of God Almighty, but by my name JEHOVAH was I not known to them.

1 Chronicles 29:11 (References Lord): Thine, O LORD, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty: for all that is in the heaven and in the earth is thine; thine is the kingdom, O LORD, and thou art exalted as head above all.

Matthew 1:23 (References God): Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.

John 17:26 (Parallel theme): And I have declared unto them thy name, and will declare it: that the love wherewith thou hast loved me may be in them, and I in them.