

Ezekiel 11:5

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the Spirit of the LORD fell upon me, and said unto me, Speak; Thus saith the LORD; Thus have ye said, O house of Israel: for I know the things that come into your mind, every one of them.

Analysis

God declares: "I know the things that come into your mind, every one of them." The Hebrew *yada* (יְדָה, "know") indicates intimate, comprehensive knowledge. Nothing escapes divine omniscience—thoughts, motives, and secret counsels all lie open before God (Hebrews 4:13). This knowledge isn't merely informational but judicial; God judges not just actions but heart attitudes. The phrase warns against hypocrisy that maintains external conformity while harboring inward rebellion. Jesus similarly condemned Pharisees whose hearts contradicted their religious performances (Matthew 23:25-28). The Reformed emphasis on God's exhaustive knowledge undergirds both the comfort of providence and the terror of judgment.

Historical Context

Ezekiel prophesied against Jerusalem's leaders (592 BC) who plotted political alliances with Egypt rather than trusting God. These princes thought their secret counsels were hidden, but God revealed their inner thoughts to Ezekiel. The leaders' false confidence despite impending judgment exemplifies the self-deception of hardened hearts. Archaeological discoveries including the Lachish letters reveal the political intrigues of this period as Judah's leaders sought survival through alliances rather than repentance. God's declaration of

omniscience exposed their folly and warned that no conspiracy could succeed against divine purposes.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. How does God's perfect knowledge of our thoughts challenge our tendency toward secret sins and hidden compromises?
2. What comfort does divine omniscience provide for believers trusting in God's providential care?

Interlinear Text

אָלָּא אָמְרָתִ מְךָ רֹוחַכְךָ מְהַלֵּל
Thus have ye said | Thus have ye said | of the LORD | And the Spirit | fell
H559 H3651 H3068 H7307 H5921

אָמְרָתִ מְךָ כֹּה אָמְרָתִ מְךָ כֹּה אָמְרָתִ מְךָ כֹּה
Thus have ye said |
H3541 H559 H3068 H3651 H559

בְּ יַתְּרֵא לְ וּמְעַל וְתַּרְאֵנָהּ אָנֹכִי יְדַעַתִּי
for I know | And the Spirit | רֹוחַכְךָ מְהַלֵּל וּמְעַל וְתַּרְאֵנָהּ אָנֹכִי
H3045 H589 H7307 H4609 H3478 H1004

Additional Cross-References

Jeremiah 17:10 (References Lord): I the LORD search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings.

Ezekiel 2:2 (Spirit): And the spirit entered into me when he spake unto me, and set me upon my feet, that I heard him that spake unto me.

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