

Isaiah 12:5

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Sing unto the LORD; for he hath done excellent things: this is known in all the earth.

Analysis

Specific reason for praise: 'he hath done excellent things.' The command 'this is known in all the earth' calls for universal proclamation. God's 'excellent things' include creation, redemption, providence—all His mighty works. The imperative suggests urgency and comprehensiveness—all earth should know God's deeds. This missionary emphasis runs throughout Isaiah (42:10-12; 45:22; 49:6). Salvation experienced compels worldwide witness. God's glory demands global recognition.

Historical Context

Anticipates global spread of knowledge of Yahweh. Partially fulfilled when Israel testified to surrounding nations and supremely fulfilled in gospel's worldwide spread. Paul's missionary vision echoed this—declaring God's excellent things to all nations. The continuing missionary movement fulfills this mandate. Every translation of Scripture, every gospel presentation makes God's excellent things 'known in all the earth.'

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Study Questions

1. What 'excellent things' has God done that compel you to praise and proclaim Him?
2. How does our local worship connect to the global mission of making God known in all earth?
3. What role do you play in making God's excellent deeds known to the nations?

Interlinear Text

מִזְעַת נָשָׁה הָיָה יְהוָה כִּי גַּא וְתַּעֲשֶׂה הַזֶּה מִזְעַת
Sing unto the LORD excellent things for he hath done this is known
H2167 H3068 H3588 H1348 H6213 H3045

בְּכָל אָרֶץ זֶה אַת
in all the earth H776 H2063 H3605

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 98:1 (Sin): O sing unto the LORD a new song; for he hath done marvellous things: his right hand, and his holy arm, hath gotten him the victory.

Exodus 15:1 (Sin): Then sang Moses and the children of Israel this song unto the LORD, and spake, saying, I will sing unto the LORD, for he hath triumphed gloriously: the horse and his rider hath he thrown into the sea.

Isaiah 40:9 (Parallel theme): O Zion, that bringest good tidings, get thee up into the high mountain; O Jerusalem, that bringest good tidings, lift up thy voice with strength; lift it up, be not afraid; say unto the cities of Judah, Behold your God!

Psalms 72:19 (Parallel theme): And blessed be his glorious name for ever: and let the whole earth be filled with his glory; Amen, and Amen.

Exodus 15:21 (Sin): And Miriam answered them, Sing ye to the LORD, for he hath triumphed gloriously; the horse and his rider hath he thrown into the sea.

Habakkuk 2:14 (References Lord): For the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea.

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