

Isaiah 25:1

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

O LORD, thou art my God; I will exalt thee, I will praise thy name; for thou hast done wonderful things; thy counsels of old are faithfulness and truth.

Analysis

O LORD, thou art my God; I will exalt thee, I will praise thy name—After chapter 24's devastating judgment, chapter 25 erupts in worship. The personal pronouns emphasize covenant relationship: 'my God' (אֱלֹהִי, Elohai). **I will exalt thee** (אֶרְוֹמִמֶּךָ, aromimka) means to lift up, magnify, make great—responding to God's self-revelation in judgment with worship.

For thou hast done wonderful things (כִּי עֲשִׂית פָּلָא, ki asita pele)—The Hebrew פָּلָא (pele, wonderful things) refers to acts only God can perform, miraculous deeds that inspire awe. These aren't random miracles but purposeful demonstrations of divine power and character.

Thy counsels of old are faithfulness and truth (עֲצֹות מִרְחֹק אֶמְנָה אֶתְּנוֹן, etsot merachok emunah omen)—God's ancient plans (from distant time) are utterly reliable. אֶמְנָה (emunah, faithfulness) and אֶתְּנוֹן (omen, truth/stability) appear together emphasizing absolute dependability. What God planned long ago, He executes precisely—no failed promises, no adjusted plans. This grounds worship in God's proven character across history.

Historical Context

This thanksgiving psalm interrupts the apocalypse genre, showing appropriate response to divine judgment: worship. 'Counsels of old' suggests God's eternal

decree, planned before creation, now unfolding in history. For Israel, this referenced promises to Abraham, David, and the prophets—all faithfully fulfilled. New Testament believers see even deeper fulfillment: God's eternal plan of redemption through Christ, 'foreordained before the foundation of the world' (1 Peter 1:20), executed precisely at the appointed time (Galatians 4:4). Paul celebrates this same theme: God's purpose 'from the beginning' now revealed (Ephesians 3:9-11).

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. How does personal relationship with God ('thou art my God') transform worship from mere religious duty to heartfelt response?
2. What 'wonderful things' has God done in your life that should provoke exaltation and praise?
3. How does God's faithfulness to 'counsels of old' (ancient promises kept) strengthen your confidence in His future promises?

Interlinear Text

כִּי שָׁמָךְ אַרְמָמֶכְּבָּא אַתָּה אֱלֹהִי יְהִי הָאֱלֹהִים
O LORD thou art my God H3068 H430 H859 I will exalt H7311 thee I will praise H3034 thy name H3588 H8034

אָמֵן וְנָהָר מִתְּחַנֵּן עַצְּוֹת שְׁעָשָׂת יְתָהָר
for thou hast done H6213 wonderful H6382 things thy counsels H6098 of old H7350 are faithfulness H530

אֶתְּתָה
and truth H544

Additional Cross-References

Exodus 15:2 (References God): The LORD is my strength and song, and he is become my salvation: he is my God, and I will prepare him an habitation; my father's God, and I will exalt him.

Psalms 118:28 (Resurrection): Thou art my God, and I will praise thee: thou art my God, I will exalt thee.

Numbers 23:19 (References God): God is not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do it? or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?

Psalms 98:1 (References Lord): 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.

Psalms 40:5 (References God): Many, O LORD my God, are thy wonderful works which thou hast done, and thy thoughts which are to us-ward: they cannot be reckoned up in order unto thee: if I would declare and speak of them, they are more than can be numbered.

Isaiah 28:29 (References Lord): This also cometh forth from the LORD of hosts, which is wonderful in counsel, and excellent in working.

Isaiah 61:10 (References God): I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decketh himself with ornaments, and as a bride adorneth herself with her jewels.

Revelation 19:11 (Faith): And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war.

Ephesians 1:11 (Parallel theme): In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will:

Isaiah 46:10 (Parallel theme): Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure:

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