

Isaiah 40:21

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Have ye not known? have ye not heard? hath it not been told you from the beginning? have ye not understood from the foundations of the earth?

Analysis

This verse shifts from idolatry's folly to God's self-evident existence and power. Four rhetorical questions pile up, each pressing the point: you should know these truths! The Hebrew 'shama' (heard) and 'bin' (understood) emphasize that God's revelation through creation and history is clear and undeniable.

Historical Context

These questions appeal to Israel's covenant history and to general revelation visible to all humanity. Knowledge of the true God has always been available through His works and word.

Related Passages

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. What aspects of God's revelation in creation have you neglected or dismissed?

2. How does Paul's argument in Romans 1:20 about God's invisible qualities being clearly seen echo this verse?

Interlinear Text

בְּלֹא וְאַתָּה תִּדְעָנָה בְּלֹא וְאַתָּה תִּשְׁמַע עַזָּה

H3808

Have ye not known

H3045

H3808

have ye not heard

H8085

בְּלֹא וְאַתָּה תִּלְאֹת

H3808

בְּגֹאֵל

מִרְאֵשׁ

לֹא כְּ

hath it not been told you from the beginning

H5046

H7218

H0

H3808

בְּבָבְיְנָה מִזְבֵּחַ

מִזְבֵּחַ וְתָבִיב

בְּאָרֶץ

have ye not understood from the foundations of the earth

H995

H4146

H776

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