

Isaiah 42:5

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Thus saith God the LORD, he that created the heavens, and stretched them out; he that spread forth the earth, and that which cometh out of it; he that giveth breath unto the people upon it, and spirit to them that walk therein:

Analysis

God's self-identification emphasizes His credentials as Creator: He created the heavens, spread forth the earth, gives breath to people and spirit to those who walk on it. The Hebrew 'bara' (create) and 'nathan' (give) establish God's absolute authority. The Creator's covenant guarantees are backed by His unlimited power.

Historical Context

This prefaces the Servant's calling with God's authority, showing that the mission described flows from the Creator's sovereign purpose. The same God who creates and sustains life appoints and empowers the Servant.

Related Passages

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Study Questions

1. How does recognizing God as Creator strengthen trust in His promises and callings?
2. What does God's gift of breath and spirit to humanity reveal about His sustaining care?

Interlinear Text

כֹּה	אָמַר	לֹא	יְהוָה	בּוֹרֵא	הַשָּׁמַיִם
H3541	Thus saith	God	the LORD	he that created	the heavens
	H559	H410	H3068	H1254	H8064
וַיִּשְׂטֹחַ	וַיִּתְּנָה	רִצְעָה	הָאֲרֶצַּח	וְהַיָּם	וְהַשָּׁמַיִם
and stretched them out	he that spread forth	the earth	and that which cometh out		
H5186	H7554	H776	H6631		
נָתַן	נְשָׁמָה	לְעַם	עַל יְהוָה	וְרוּחַ	
of it he that giveth	breath	unto the people	H5921	upon it and spirit	
H5414	H5397	H5971		H7307	
לַהֲלֹכִים	בָּהֶם				
to them that walk	H0				
H1980					

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 40:22 (Parallel theme): It is he that sitteth upon the circle of the earth, and the inhabitants thereof are as grasshoppers; that stretcheth out the heavens as a curtain, and spreadeth them out as a tent to dwell in:

Isaiah 45:12 (Creation): I have made the earth, and created man upon it: I, even my hands, have stretched out the heavens, and all their host have I commanded.

Zechariah 12:1 (Spirit): The burden of the word of the LORD for Israel, saith the LORD, which stretcheth forth the heavens, and layeth the foundation of the earth, and formeth the spirit of man within him.

Jeremiah 10:12 (Creation): He hath made the earth by his power, he hath established the world by his wisdom, and hath stretched out the heavens by his discretion.

Isaiah 48:13 (Parallel theme): Mine hand also hath laid the foundation of the earth, and my right hand hath spanned the heavens: when I call unto them, they stand up together.

Isaiah 44:24 (References Lord): Thus saith the LORD, thy redeemer, and he that formed thee from the womb, I am the LORD that maketh all things; that stretcheth forth the heavens alone; that spreadeth abroad the earth by myself;

Jeremiah 32:17 (Creation): Ah Lord GOD! behold, thou hast made the heaven and the earth by thy great power and stretched out arm, and there is nothing too hard for thee:

Isaiah 45:18 (Creation): For thus saith the LORD that created the heavens; God himself that formed the earth and made it; he hath established it, he created it not in vain, he formed it to be inhabited: I am the LORD; and there is none else.

Psalms 33:6 (Creation): By the word of the LORD were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of his mouth.

Job 33:4 (Spirit): The Spirit of God hath made me, and the breath of the Almighty hath given me life.