

Isaiah 48:11

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For mine own sake, even for mine own sake, will I do it: for how should my name be polluted? and I will not give my glory unto another.

Analysis

The repeated 'for mine own sake' emphasizes that God's ultimate motivation in all redemption is His own glory, not human benefit (though we do benefit). The rhetorical 'how should my name be polluted?' shows that God's holiness demands vindication of His reputation. This God-centeredness offends human pride but establishes true worship - God is end, not means.

Historical Context

Throughout exile, Israel questioned whether God could or would deliver. God answers that His own honor requires deliverance. This theocentric motivation appears throughout Scripture (Ezekiel 36:22, John 17:4, Ephesians 1:6).

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Study Questions

1. How does God's 'for my own sake' motivation challenge your human-centered view of salvation?

2. What does it mean to worship God for who He is rather than merely for what He gives?

Interlinear Text

לְמַעַן י'	לְמַעַן י'	אֶעֱשֶׂה ה'	אֵי יוֹ כִּי
H4616	H4616	H6213	H3588 H349
For mine own sake even for mine own sake will I do			
יִדָּל	וְכְבוֹדִי	לְאַחַר ר'	לֹא
H2490	H3519	H312	H3808
it for how should my name be polluted my glory unto another			
אֶתֵּן:			
and I will not give			
H5414			

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 42:8 (Glory): I am the LORD: that is my name: and my glory will I not give to another, neither my praise to graven images.

Ezekiel 20:9 (Parallel theme): But I wrought for my name's sake, that it should not be polluted before the heathen, among whom they were, in whose sight I made myself known unto them, in bringing them forth out of the land of Egypt.

Isaiah 37:35 (Parallel theme): For I will defend this city to save it for mine own sake, and for my servant David's sake.

Ezekiel 20:14 (Parallel theme): But I wrought for my name's sake, that it should not be polluted before the heathen, in whose sight I brought them out.

Ezekiel 20:22 (Parallel theme): Nevertheless I withdrew mine hand, and wrought for my name's sake, that it should not be polluted in the sight of the heathen, in whose sight I brought them forth.

1 Samuel 12:22 (Parallel theme): For the LORD will not forsake his people for his great name's sake: because it hath pleased the LORD to make you his people.

Isaiah 43:25 (Parallel theme): I, even I, am he that blotteth out thy transgressions for mine own sake, and will not remember thy sins.

Jeremiah 14:7 (Parallel theme): O LORD, though our iniquities testify against us, do thou it for thy name's sake: for our backslidings are many; we have sinned against thee.

Ezekiel 20:44 (Parallel theme): And ye shall know that I am the LORD, when I have wrought with you for my name's sake, not according to your wicked ways, nor according to your corrupt doings, O ye house of Israel, saith the Lord GOD.

Isaiah 48:5 (Parallel theme): I have even from the beginning declared it to thee; before it came to pass I shewed it thee: lest thou shouldest say, Mine idol hath done them, and my graven image, and my molten image, hath commanded them.

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