

Isaiah 48:13

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

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.

Analysis

The declaration 'Mine hand also hath laid the foundation of the earth' asserts God's creative sovereignty, while 'when I call unto them, they stand up together' depicts creation's instant obedience. This contrasts with human resistance (v. 8) - inanimate creation obeys immediately while rational beings rebel. The picture anticipates Christ calming the storm (Mark 4:39), demonstrating divine authority.

Historical Context

This creation theology refutes Babylonian myths where gods struggled to form cosmos from chaos. Isaiah's God speaks and creation instantly obeys, establishing absolute sovereignty as basis for confidence He can redeem Israel.

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. What does creation's instant obedience expose about your occasional reluctance to obey God's clear commands?

2. How should the power that created ex nihilo encourage your faith in God's ability to solve your problems?

Interlinear Text

אֶף H637	יָדִי Mine hand H3027	וְסִדָּה also hath laid the foundation H3245	אֶרֶץ of the earth H776	וַיְמִינִי and my right hand H3225	
הִסְפִּיחַ hath spanned H2946	שָׁמַיִם the heavens H8064	קִרְאָה when I call H7121	אֲנִי H589	אֵלֵיהֶם H413	וַיַּעֲמֵד unto them they stand up H5975
יַחְדָּו together H3162					

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 40:26 (Parallel theme): Lift up your eyes on high, and behold who hath created these things, that bringeth out their host by number: he calleth them all by names by the greatness of his might, for that he is strong in power; not one faileth.

Isaiah 45:18 (Parallel theme): 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 102:25 (Parallel theme): Of old hast thou laid the foundation of the earth: and the heavens are the work of thy hands.

Exodus 20:11 (Parallel theme): For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it.

Isaiah 42:5 (Parallel theme): 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:

Isaiah 40:12 (Parallel theme): Who hath measured the waters in the hollow of his hand, and meted out heaven with the span, and comprehended the dust of the earth in a measure, and weighed the mountains in scales, and the hills in a balance?

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:

Psalms 147:4 (Parallel theme): He telleth the number of the stars; he calleth them all by their names.

Job 37:18 (Parallel theme): Hast thou with him spread out the sky, which is strong, and as a molten looking glass?

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