

# Isaiah 64:3

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

When thou didst terrible things which we looked not for, thou camest down, the mountains flowed down at thy presence.

## Analysis

'When thou didst terrible things which we looked not for, thou camest down, the mountains quaked at thy presence.' Memory of past unexpected interventions grounds present hope. 'Terrible things' (yare - fear-inspiring) exceeded expectation. The Hebrew 'lo-qivinu' (we looked not for) emphasizes surprise - God exceeded their imagination.

## Historical Context

This recalls unexpected deliverances like the Red Sea crossing, fall of Jericho, or defeat of Assyria. God's past surprises encourage prayers for new surprises.

## Related Passages

**John 3:16** — God's love and salvation

**Ephesians 2:8** — Salvation by grace through faith

**James 2:17** — Faith and works

**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

## Study Questions

1. When has God done 'terrible things you looked not for'?

2. How does remembering divine surprises shape your expectations?

## Interlinear Text

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When thou didst	terrible things	H3808	which we looked	not for thou camest down	H3381
H6213	H3372	H6960			
at thy presence	the mountains	H2022	flowed down		
H6440		H2151			

## Additional Cross-References

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**Psalms 66:5** (Parallel theme): Come and see the works of God: he is terrible in his doing toward the children of men.

**Psalms 106:22** (Parallel theme): Wondrous works in the land of Ham, and terrible things by the Red sea.

**Psalms 66:3** (Parallel theme): Say unto God, How terrible art thou in thy works! through the greatness of thy power shall thine enemies submit themselves unto thee.

**Deuteronomy 10:21** (Parallel theme): He is thy praise, and he is thy God, that hath done for thee these great and terrible things, which thine eyes have seen.

**Habakkuk 3:3** (Parallel theme): God came from Teman, and the Holy One from mount Paran. Selah. His glory covered the heavens, and the earth was full of his praise.