

Jeremiah 23:24

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Can any hide himself in secret places that I shall not see him?
saith the LORD. Do not I fill heaven and earth? saith the
LORD.

Analysis

Can any hide himself in secret places that I shall not see him? The verb סתר (satar, 'hide/conceal') meets God's pervasive presence—**Do not I fill heaven and earth?** (אֶنֹּכְנֶה אֶת־הָאָרֶץ, ani male). The verb מלא ('fill') describes omnipresence throughout all reality. Heaven and earth constitute totality in Hebrew thought—God fills (not merely observes) all space.

This affirms divine omnipresence and omniscience explicitly. False prophets' secret councils and whispered lies occurred under God's direct gaze. Paul taught that in God 'we live and move and have our being' (Acts 17:28). No secret sin, hidden rebellion, or private hypocrisy escapes divine awareness. This truth either terrifies or comforts, depending on one's relationship with God.

Historical Context

False prophets likely met privately, coordinating messages and colluding with court officials away from public scrutiny. They assumed conspiracies remained hidden. Jeremiah exposes the foolishness of believing omniscient God could be deceived about secret corruption.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Study Questions

1. What are you hiding in secret places imagining God doesn't see?
2. How does God's omnipresence affect private internet use, inner thoughts, secret habits?
3. Does divine omnipresence terrify or comfort you, and why?

Interlinear Text

אָרָא כִּי לֹא יָאַנְּנִי בְּמִסְתָּר יְמִין אָשָׁר יְפַתֵּח רַאֲמֵן
H518 hide H376 Can any H4565 himself in secret places H589 H3808 that I shall not see H7200

נָאָמַר אֵת בְּשָׂמָמִים וְאֵת בָּל וְאֵת יְהִיָּה
H5002 him saith H3068 the LORD H3808 H853 H8064 H853 H776 H589 and earth

יְהִיָּה נָאָמַר מְלָאֵךְ
H4390 him saith H3068 the LORD H5002 H3068

Additional Cross-References

Proverbs 15:3 (References Lord): The eyes of the LORD are in every place, beholding the evil and the good.

Psalms 139:7 (Parallel theme): Whither shall I go from thy spirit? or whither shall I flee from thy presence?

Psalms 90:8 (Parallel theme): Thou hast set our iniquities before thee, our secret sins in the light of thy countenance.

Isaiah 29:15 (References Lord): Woe unto them that seek deep to hide their counsel from the LORD, and their works are in the dark, and they say, Who seeth us? and who knoweth us?

1 Kings 8:27 (Parallel theme): But will God indeed dwell on the earth? behold, the heaven and heaven of heavens cannot contain thee; how much less this house that I have builded?

Isaiah 66:1 (References Lord): Thus saith the LORD, The heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool: where is the house that ye build unto me? and where is the place of my rest?

Isaiah 57:15 (Parallel theme): For thus saith the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity, whose name is Holy; I dwell in the high and holy place, with him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones.

Psalms 10:11 (Parallel theme): He hath said in his heart, God hath forgotten: he hideth his face; he will never see it.

2 Chronicles 6:18 (Parallel theme): But will God in very deed dwell with men on the earth? behold, heaven and the heaven of heavens cannot contain thee; how much less this house which I have built!

Ephesians 1:23 (Parallel theme): Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all.