

Jeremiah 27:5

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

I have made the earth, the man and the beast that are upon the ground, by my great power and by my outstretched arm, and have given it unto whom it seemed meet unto me.

Analysis

This verse grounds God's sovereignty in His role as Creator. The phrase 'by my great power and by my outstretched arm' echoes Exodus language, now applied to giving kingdoms to whomever God chooses - including pagan Nebuchadnezzar. Reformed theology emphasizes God's absolute sovereignty over all nations and rulers (Dan 4:17, Rom 13:1). No human power exists independent of God's decree.

Historical Context

Jeremiah wore an actual wooden yoke as a prophetic sign, symbolizing submission to Babylon. This was scandalous - appearing to support the enemy - yet it was God's revealed will.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. How does God's sovereignty over all nations affect your view of current events?
2. In what ways do you struggle to accept God's authority over circumstances you dislike?

Interlinear Text

בְּבָהָמָה וְאֶת בָּאָרֶץ אֲתָּה עָשָׂת יְהִי אָנֹכִי
H595 I have made H853 the earth H853 the man H853 and the beast
H6213 H776 H120 H929

וּבְזָרֹעַ עַל אֲשֶׁר פָּנָי בְּכָחִי הַגָּד וְלֹא עַל אֲשֶׁר
H834 H5921 that are upon H6440 the earth H776 power H3581 by my great H1419 arm
H2220

בְּעִינֵּי הַגְּנָטוּת יְהִי רְאֵשׁ לְאֶשְׁר וְנִתְתַּת יְהִי רְאֵשׁ
and by my outstretched H5186 and have given H5414 H834 meet H3474 it unto whom it seemed
H5869

Additional Cross-References

Jeremiah 51:15 (Creation): He hath made the earth by his power, he hath established the world by his wisdom, and hath stretched out the heaven by his understanding.

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:

Daniel 4:17 (Parallel theme): This matter is by the decree of the watchers, and the demand by the word of the holy ones: to the intent that the living may know that the most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will, and setteth up over it the basest of men.

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.

Isaiah 42:5 (Creation): 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:

Colossians 1:16 (Creation): For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him:

Revelation 4:11 (Creation): Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.

Hebrews 1:2 (Creation): Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds;

Isaiah 44:24 (Parallel theme): 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;

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.