

Jeremiah 51:15

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

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.

Analysis

This doxology celebrating God as Creator stands in stark contrast to Babylon's impotent idols. The threefold declaration - made earth by power, established world by wisdom, stretched heavens by understanding - ascribes all creation to God alone. Babylon's gods are 'vanity' and 'the work of errors' (v18), but YAHWEH is 'the portion of Jacob' (v19). Worship belongs to the Creator, not the created.

Historical Context

This verse is nearly identical to Jer 10:12, emphasizing the consistency of God's self-revelation. In context of Babylon's fall, it grounds God's sovereignty over nations in His role as Creator.

Related Passages

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. How does remembering God as Creator affect your confidence in His control of current events?

2. What 'vanities' and 'errors' tempt you to trust in created things rather than the Creator?

Interlinear Text

עָשָׂה	אָרֶץ	בְּכָחָה	מִכְלָא	תְּבִילָה
He hath made	the earth	by his power	he hath established	the world
H6213	H776	H3581	H3559	H8398
בְּחִכְמַת	וּבְתִבְוֹנַת	נָתַן	שָׁמָיִם	
by his wisdom	by his understanding	and hath stretched out	the heaven	
H2451	H8394	H5186	H8064	

Additional Cross-References

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.

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:

Acts 14:15 (Creation): And saying, Sirs, why do ye these things? We also are men of like passions with you, and preach unto you that ye should turn from these vanities unto the living God, which made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and all things that are therein:

Romans 1:20 (Creation): For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse:

Job 9:8 (Parallel theme): Which alone spreadeth out the heavens, and treadeth upon the waves of the sea.

Psalms 104:2 (Parallel theme): Who coverest thyself with light as with a garment: who stretchest out the heavens like a curtain:

Proverbs 3:19 (Parallel theme): The LORD by wisdom hath founded the earth; by understanding hath he established the heavens.

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