

Jeremiah 9:24

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But let him that glorieth glory in this, that he understandeth and knoweth me, that I am the LORD which exercise lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness, in the earth: for in these things I delight, saith the LORD.

Analysis

This verse provides the positive corollary to verse 23's negatives: 'But let him that glorieth glory in this, that he understandeth and knoweth me.' The Hebrew yithalel (יְתַהֵל, glory, boast) should focus on sakal (שָׁכַל, understanding, acting wisely) and yada (יָדָה, knowing intimately). Knowledge of God combines intellectual understanding with personal relationship. 'That I am the LORD which exercise lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness, in the earth.' Three attributes define God's character: chesed (תּוֹךְ, covenant love, loyalty), mishpat (מִשְׁפָט, justice, judgment), and tsedaqah (צְדָקָה, righteousness). 'For in these things I delight, saith the LORD'—God takes pleasure in exercising and seeing these qualities. True glory is knowing this God and reflecting His character.

Historical Context

This verse became foundational for Jewish and Christian theology of knowing God. The three attributes—lovingkindness, judgment, righteousness—summarize God's covenant character. Micah 6:8's requirements (justice, mercy, humble walk with God) reflect similar theology. Paul quotes verse 24 in 1 Corinthians 1:31 and 2 Corinthians 10:17, applying it to boasting only in Christ. The Reformed tradition emphasized knowing God as life's chief purpose based partly on this text.

Related Passages

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. What does glorying in knowing God look like practically, contrasted with glorying in wisdom, strength, or wealth?
2. How do lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness together reveal God's complete character?

Interlinear Text

בָּזֶן אֶת אָמֵן כִּי
H3588 H518 H2063 **בָּזֶן אֶת אָמֵן כִּי** **בָּזֶן אֶת אָמֵן כִּי**
H1984 **But let him that glorieth** **But let him that glorieth**
H1984

בְּשָׁכֵל אֶת עַד אֲוֹתָיו
H7919 H3045 H853 H3588 H589
in this that he understandeth **and knoweth** **אֶת עַד אֲוֹתָיו**

מִשְׁפָּט וְצִדְקָה יְהִי
H4941 H6666 H2617 H6213 H3068
and righteousness **and judgment** **מִשְׁפָּט וְצִדְקָה יְהִי**
me that I am the LORD **which exercise** **lovingkindness**

תְּאִם בָּא כָּא בְּאַתְּ
H5002 H2654 H428 H3588 H776
saith **for in these things I delight** **תְּאִם בָּא כָּא בְּאַתְּ**
in the earth

יְהִי
H3068
me that I am the LORD

Additional Cross-References

2 Corinthians 10:17 (Glory): But he that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord.

Galatians 6:14 (Glory): But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world.

1 Corinthians 1:31 (Glory): That, according as it is written, He that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord.

Micah 6:8 (Righteousness): He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the LORD require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?

Micah 7:18 (Light): Who is a God like unto thee, that pardoneth iniquity, and passeth by the transgression of the remnant of his heritage? he retaineth not his anger for ever, because he delighteth in mercy.

Psalms 44:8 (Parallel theme): In God we boast all the day long, and praise thy name for ever. Selah.

1 John 5:20 (Parallel theme): And we know that the Son of God is come, and hath given us an understanding, that we may know him that is true, and we are in him that is true, even in his Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God, and eternal life.

John 17:3 (Parallel theme): And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.

Psalms 51:1 (Parallel theme): Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy lovingkindness: according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions.

Psalms 91:14 (Parallel theme): Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because he hath known my name.