

Nehemiah 9:6

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Thou, even thou, art LORD alone; thou hast made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth, and all things that are therein, the seas, and all that is therein, and thou preservest them all; and the host of heaven worshippeth thee.

Analysis

Thou, even thou, art LORD alone; thou hast made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth, and all things that are therein, the seas, and all that is therein, and thou preservest them all; and the host of heaven worshippeth thee.

This verse within Nehemiah 9 addresses themes of confession, God's faithfulness, corporate prayer, covenant history. Extended corporate prayer recounts God's faithfulness through Israel's history while honestly confessing persistent covenant violations. This passage demonstrates biblical principles applicable across both testaments—God's sovereignty combined with human responsibility, faith expressed through obedient action, and the necessity of both individual and corporate commitment to covenant faithfulness. Nehemiah models leadership that combines vision, prayer, courage, integrity, and perseverance amid sustained opposition.

Historical Context

Nehemiah's account occurs during Persian imperial dominance (539-331 BC), specifically 445-433 BC under Artaxerxes I. The spiritual reforms under Ezra and Nehemiah shaped Judaism for centuries, establishing Scripture's centrality and

patterns of worship continuing into the intertestamental period and beyond. The Persian period was crucial transitional time when Jewish identity shifted from monarchical nationalism to Torah-centered covenantal community. Without political independence, the people's cohesion depended on shared scripture, temple worship, and covenant obedience. This established patterns persisting through the Second Temple period into New Testament times. Understanding this context illuminates Jesus's ministry among a people shaped by these reforms and challenges.

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Study Questions

1. How does regular engagement with Scripture transform understanding of God and His will for your life?
2. What specific commitments do you need to make (or renew) regarding Bible reading, worship, and obedience?
3. How can the principles demonstrated in this passage inform your response to current challenges in your life or church?

Interlinear Text

אֶתְּהָ	הָ וְאֵ	יְהוָה	לְבַדְּךָ	אֶתְּ	עָשׂוּ יְתְּ
H859	H1931	Thou even thou art LORD	H905	H853	alone thou hast made
		H3068			H6213
אֶתְּ	הַשָּׁמַיִם יְיָ	הַשָּׁמַיִם יְיָ	הַשָּׁמַיִם יְיָ	וְכָל	וְצָבָא
H853	heaven	heaven	heaven	H3605	them all and the host
	H8064	H8064	H8064		H6635
					H776
וְכָל	אֲשֶׁר בָּהֶם	עַל יְהוָה	הַיָּם	וְכָל	אֲשֶׁר בָּהֶם
H3605	H834	H5921	and all things that are therein the seas	H3605	H834
			H3220		
וְכָל	אֲשֶׁר בָּהֶם	וְאֵת הַיָּם	וְאֵת הַיָּם	וְאֵת הַיָּם	וְאֵת הַיָּם
H0	H859	and all that is therein and thou preservest	H853	H3605	
		H2421			
וְצָבָא	הַשָּׁמַיִם יְיָ	לְךָ	מִשְׁתַּחֲוִיִּים:		
them all and the host	heaven	H0	worshippeth		
H6635	H8064		H7812		

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 37:16 (Creation): O LORD of hosts, God of Israel, that dwellest between the cherubims, thou art the God, even thou alone, of all the kingdoms of the earth: thou hast made heaven and earth.

Genesis 1:1 (Creation): In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.

Deuteronomy 10:14 (References Lord): Behold, the heaven and the heaven of heavens is the LORD'S thy God, the earth also, with all that therein is.

Deuteronomy 6:4 (References Lord): Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God is one LORD:

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.

Isaiah 44:8 (Parallel theme): Fear ye not, neither be afraid: have not I told thee from that time, and have declared it? ye are even my witnesses. Is there a God beside me? yea, there is no God; I know not any.

Isaiah 44:6 (References Lord): Thus saith the LORD the King of Israel, and his redeemer the LORD of hosts; I am the first, and I am the last; and beside me there is no God.

Genesis 2:1 (Parallel theme): Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them.

2 Kings 19:15 (Creation): And Hezekiah prayed before the LORD, and said, O LORD God of Israel, which dwellest between the cherubims, thou art the God, even thou alone, of all the kingdoms of the earth; thou hast made heaven and earth.

Isaiah 43:10 (References Lord): Ye are my witnesses, saith the LORD, and my servant whom I have chosen: that ye may know and believe me, and understand that I am he: before me there was no God formed, neither shall there be after me.