

Proverbs 15:29

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The LORD is far from the wicked: but he heareth the prayer of the righteous.

Analysis

The LORD is far from the wicked but hears the righteous. This doesn't deny God's omnipresence but His relational nearness and favor. Prayer's efficacy requires righteous standing before God, obtained only through Christ's imputed righteousness. The wicked have no access to God's throne apart from repentance.

Historical Context

Temple worship made spatial the theological reality of access to God's presence. Only priests entered the holy place, and high priest alone entered the Most Holy Place once annually, showing restricted access until Christ opened the way.

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. How does Christ's righteousness grant you confident access to God in prayer?
2. What sins create distance in your relationship with God requiring repentance?

Interlinear Text

כַּח וּק	! הָהָה	מִרְשָׁעִים	וּתְפִלָּה	צְדִיקִים	יִשְׁמָע:
is far	The LORD	from the wicked	the prayer	of the righteous	but he heareth
H7350	H3068	H7563	H8605	H6662	H8085

Additional Cross-References

John 9:31 (Parallel theme): Now we know that God heareth not sinners: but if any man be a worshipper of God, and doeth his will, him he heareth.

Proverbs 15:8 (Prayer): The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination to the LORD: but the prayer of the upright is his delight.

1 Peter 3:12 (Righteousness): For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and his ears are open unto their prayers: but the face of the Lord is against them that do evil.

Psalms 138:6 (References Lord): Though the LORD be high, yet hath he respect unto the lowly: but the proud he knoweth afar off.

Psalms 10:1 (References Lord): Why standest thou afar off, O LORD? why hidest thou thyself in times of trouble?

Matthew 25:46 (Righteousness): And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.