

Proverbs 8:28

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

When he established the clouds above: when he strengthened the fountains of the deep:

Analysis

When God established clouds above and strengthened deep's fountains, wisdom was there. The Hebrew 'amats' (strengthen/make firm) describes securing atmospheric and hydrological systems. The water cycle - clouds, rain, springs, seas - operates by divine wisdom. Natural processes aren't autonomous but wisely designed and sustained. This anticipates Colossians 1:17's teaching that Christ 'upholds all things by the word of his power.'

Historical Context

Ancient peoples didn't understand atmospheric science or hydrology mechanically. Israel knew God providentially controlled weather (Psalm 147:8, Jeremiah 10:13). Modern science explains mechanisms but doesn't eliminate divine wisdom. Discovery of natural law doesn't exclude God; it reveals His wise design. Newton, Kepler, and many founders of modern science were theists who saw science as thinking God's thoughts after Him.

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. How do you integrate scientific understanding of natural processes with theological affirmation of divine wisdom?
2. What aspects of creation's order reveal wisdom that naturalistic explanations overlook?
3. How should studying science enhance rather than diminish your appreciation of divine wisdom?

Interlinear Text

בָּאָמַץ וְ	מִתְּעִילָה	בְּעִזּוֹת	עִינֵּוֹת
When he established	the clouds	above	when he strengthened
H553	H7834	H4605	H5810
תְּהוֹם:			the fountains
of the deep			H5869
H8415			

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