

Psalms 102:15

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

So the heathen shall fear the name of the LORD, and all the kings of the earth thy glory.

Analysis

The restoration of Zion will cause the nations (goyim) to fear God's name and kings to honor His glory. This missionary vision sees Israel's restoration as a witness to the world, demonstrating God's faithfulness and power. The Reformed understanding of God's glory as the chief end of all things recognizes that even suffering and restoration serve to magnify God among the nations. Christ's resurrection and the church's growth fulfill this prophecy as people from every nation worship the God of Israel.

Historical Context

Isaiah and other prophets repeatedly connected Israel's restoration with the nations coming to worship Yahweh (Isa 60:1-3). The return from exile did bring some Gentile converts, but the ultimate fulfillment comes through Christ and the church.

Related Passages

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. How does God's faithfulness in your life serve as a witness to unbelievers?
2. What role does the church play in displaying God's glory to the nations today?

Interlinear Text

וַיִּירָא ו	ג וְאִם	אֶת	שֵׁם	יְהוָה	וְכָל	מַלְכֵי י
shall fear	So the heathen	H853	the name	of the LORD	H3605	and all the kings
H3372	H1471		H8034	H3068		H4428
הָאָרֶץ	אֶת	כְּבוֹדְךָ:				
of the earth	H853	thy glory				
H776		H3519				

Additional Cross-References

1 Kings 8:43 (Parallel theme): Hear thou in heaven thy dwelling place, and do according to all that the stranger calleth to thee for: that all people of the earth may know thy name, to fear thee, as do thy people Israel; and that they may know that this house, which I have builded, is called by thy name.

Psalms 138:4 (Kingdom): All the kings of the earth shall praise thee, O LORD, when they hear the words of thy mouth.