

Psalms 104:16

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The trees of the LORD are full of sap; the cedars of Lebanon,
which he hath planted;

Analysis

The trees of the LORD—even Lebanon's cedars that He planted—are 'full of sap' (satisfied). Even the mightiest trees depend entirely on God's watering. The cedars of Lebanon were famous for strength and beauty, yet they too rely on divine provision. This humbles human pride—if great cedars depend on God, how much more humans? 'Trees of the LORD' (atsei YHWH) suggests these magnificent trees particularly display God's glory. Christ used trees as object lessons (Matt 7:17-20), and believers are described as trees planted by water (Ps 1:3).

Historical Context

Lebanon's cedars were prized throughout the ancient Near East for construction, particularly Solomon's temple (1 Kings 5:6). These majestic trees represented the apex of natural splendor and strength.

Related Passages

1 John 4:8 — God is love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Study Questions

1. How does recognizing even the mightiest elements of creation as dependent on God humble your self-sufficiency?
2. What does being 'planted by the LORD' mean for your spiritual growth and fruitfulness?

Interlinear Text

שְׁבֹעוּ	טֵעֵי	יְהוָה	אֲרֵזֵי	לְבָנוֹן	אֲשֶׁר
are full	The trees	of the LORD	of sap the cedars	of Lebanon	
H7646	H6086	H3068	H730	H3844	H834

נִטָּע:

which he hath planted

H5193

Additional Cross-References

Ezekiel 17:23 (Parallel theme): In the mountain of the height of Israel will I plant it: and it shall bring forth boughs, and bear fruit, and be a goodly cedar: and under it shall dwell all fowl of every wing; in the shadow of the branches thereof shall they dwell.

Numbers 24:6 (References Lord): As the valleys are they spread forth, as gardens by the river's side, as the trees of lign aloes which the LORD hath planted, and as cedar trees beside the waters.

Psalms 92:2 (Parallel theme): To shew forth thy lovingkindness in the morning, and thy faithfulness every night,

Psalms 29:5 (References Lord): The voice of the LORD breaketh the cedars; yea, the LORD breaketh the cedars of Lebanon.