

Psalms 104:3

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Who layeth the beams of his chambers in the waters: who
maketh the clouds his chariot: who walketh upon the wings of
the wind:

Analysis

God 'lays the beams of his chambers in the waters' and makes clouds His chariot, 'walking upon the wings of the wind.' This majestic imagery portrays God's sovereign control over creation's highest realms. The 'chambers' (aliyyah) suggest His heavenly dwelling above the waters of the sky. Walking on wind demonstrates effortless mastery over nature's most powerful forces. This anticipates Christ walking on water (Matt 14:25), demonstrating His divine authority over creation. The Reformed emphasis on God's transcendence recognizes His absolute distinction from and authority over all created things.

Historical Context

Ancient Near Eastern cosmology viewed the sky as waters held back by a firmament, with God's dwelling above. This verse uses that worldview to communicate God's sovereign majesty over all creation.

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. How does God's mastery over nature's most powerful forces assure you of His control over your circumstances?
2. What does Christ's demonstration of divine power over nature reveal about His identity?

Interlinear Text

הַ מְקַרֵּה	בַּיָּם	עַלִּי וְתִי	הַשָּׁם	עַבְיָם
Who layeth the beams	in the waters	of his chambers	who maketh	the clouds
H7136	H4325	H5944	H7760	H5645
הַ כְּרוֹבֹתָיו	הַ מְהַלֵּךְ	עַל	כְּנָפָיו	רוּחַ:
his chariot	who walketh	H5921	upon the wings	of the wind
H7398	H1980		H3671	H7307

Additional Cross-References

Amos 9:6 (Parallel theme): It is he that buildeth his stories in the heaven, and hath founded his troop in the earth; he that calleth for the waters of the sea, and poureth them out upon the face of the earth: The LORD is his name.

Isaiah 19:1 (Parallel theme): The burden of Egypt. Behold, the LORD rideth upon a swift cloud, and shall come into Egypt: and the idols of Egypt shall be moved at his presence, and the heart of Egypt shall melt in the midst of it.

2 Samuel 22:11 (Parallel theme): And he rode upon a cherub, and did fly: and he was seen upon the wings of the wind.

Nahum 1:3 (Parallel theme): The LORD is slow to anger, and great in power, and will not at all acquit the wicked: the LORD hath his way in the whirlwind and in the storm, and the clouds are the dust of his feet.

Psalms 139:9 (Parallel theme): If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea;

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