

Psalm 104:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

At thy rebuke they fled; at the voice of thy thunder they hastened away.

Analysis

At God's rebuke (ge'arah) and voice of thunder (qol ra'am), waters fled. This dramatic language personifies waters responding to divine command with fearful obedience. God's mere word reshapes creation. The 'rebuke' suggests authoritative correction of chaos. Christ demonstrated similar authority when He rebuked wind and waves (Mark 4:39). The Reformed emphasis on God's word as powerful and effectual recognizes that divine speech accomplishes God's purposes infallibly (Isa 55:11).

Historical Context

Thunder in ancient Israel was understood as God's voice (Ps 29), associated with theophanies and divine power. The fleeing waters recall God's judgment in the flood and deliverance at the Red Sea.

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. How does God's word continue to exercise creative and transformative power in your life?
2. What areas of chaos in your life need to flee at the rebuke of God's word?

Interlinear Text

מִן	גַּעַב	תָּבַת	מִן	לְאָלָה	לְעַמְּךָ	בְּעַמְּךָ	יְמִינְךָ:
At	thy rebuke	they fled	At	at the voice	of thy thunder	they hasted	
H4480	H1606	H5127	H4480	H6963	H7482	H2648	

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 18:15 (Parallel theme): Then the channels of waters were seen, and the foundations of the world were discovered at thy rebuke, O LORD, at the blast of the breath of thy nostrils.

Proverbs 8:28 (Parallel theme): When he established the clouds above: when he strengthened the fountains of the deep:

Mark 4:39 (Parallel theme): And he arose, and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, Peace, be still. And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm.

Genesis 8:1 (Parallel theme): And God remembered Noah, and every living thing, and all the cattle that was with him in the ark: and God made a wind to pass over the earth, and the waters asswaged;

Psalms 106:9 (Parallel theme): He rebuked the Red sea also, and it was dried up: so he led them through the depths, as through the wilderness.