

# Psalms 104:9

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Thou hast set a bound that they may not pass over; that they turn not again to cover the earth.

## Analysis

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God set a boundary (gebul) that waters cannot pass, preventing another flood covering the earth. This recalls God's covenant promise to Noah (Gen 9:11-15). God's restraint of waters demonstrates His faithfulness and protective boundaries in creation. The sea's limits illustrate divine sovereignty—even chaotic forces obey appointed boundaries. Job 38:8-11 similarly describes God setting bars and doors for the sea. This provides assurance that God controls potentially destructive forces. Christ's authority over the sea fulfills this divine prerogative.

## Historical Context

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After the flood, God promised never again to destroy the earth with water. This boundary set for waters represents a fundamental covenant commitment, observable in creation's ongoing stability.

## Related Passages

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**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

**James 2:17** — Faith and works

## Study Questions

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1. How do God's boundaries and limits in nature provide assurance of His covenant faithfulness?
2. What 'boundaries' has God set in your life for protection that you might be resisting?

## Interlinear Text

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גְּבוּל	שָׁ מָתָּה	בִּל	יַעֲבֹר וְ	בִּל
a bound	Thou hast set	H1077	that they may not pass over	H1077
H1366	H7760		H5674	
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! שֹׁב וְ	לִכֹּס וְ	הָאָרֶץ:		
that they turn not again	to cover	the earth		
H7725	H3680	H776		

## Additional Cross-References

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**Isaiah 54:9** (Parallel theme): For this is as the waters of Noah unto me: for as I have sworn that the waters of Noah should no more go over the earth; so have I sworn that I would not be wroth with thee, nor rebuke thee.

**Job 26:10** (Parallel theme): He hath compassed the waters with bounds, until the day and night come to an end.

**Jeremiah 5:22** (Parallel theme): Fear ye not me? saith the LORD: will ye not tremble at my presence, which have placed the sand for the bound of the sea by a perpetual decree, that it cannot pass it: and though the waves thereof toss themselves, yet can they not prevail; though they roar, yet can they not pass over it?