

Psalm 113:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Blessed be the name of the LORD from this time forth and for evermore.

Analysis

"Blessed be the name of the LORD from this time forth and for evermore." The benediction yehi shem YHWH mevorakh (may the name of the LORD be blessed) calls for perpetual praise. Barak (bless) when applied to God means to praise, adore, speak well of. Shem (name) represents God's revealed character and reputation. The temporal scope: me'atah ve'ad olam (from now and until eternity). Atah (now) indicates present moment; ad olam (until eternity) extends endlessly forward. This commitment to eternal praise anticipates the eschatological reality: "And they shall reign for ever and ever" (Revelation 22:5), with continuous worship (Revelation 7:15). Earthly worship prepares for heavenly worship—practicing now what we'll do forever.

Historical Context

Psalm 113-118 form the Egyptian Hallel, recited at major festivals (Passover, Pentecost, Tabernacles, Dedication/Hanukkah). Jesus likely sang these Psalms at the Last Supper (Matthew 26:30, Mark 14:26). Psalm 113 opens the Hallel with call to praise, while Psalm 118 closes with thanksgiving. Jewish tradition divided the Hallel, singing Psalms 113-114 before the Passover meal, 115-118 after. This liturgical use embedded praise into Israel's worship rhythm, connecting generations through shared hymnody. Early Christian worship similarly used Psalms extensively (Ephesians 5:19, Colossians 3:16, James 5:13).

Related Passages

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. What does it mean to bless God's "name" (character/reputation) rather than merely generic praise?
2. How can believers cultivate a mindset of perpetual praise ("from now...for evermore")?
3. In what ways does earthly worship prepare you for eternal worship?

Interlinear Text

בָּרוּךְ יְהוָה מִעוּדָה עַד עַזְלָם:
H1961 be the name H8034 of the LORD H3068 H1288 H6258 H5704 H5769

Additional Cross-References

Daniel 2:20 (Blessing): Daniel answered and said, Blessed be the name of God for ever and ever: for wisdom and might are his:

Psalms 41:13 (Blessing): Blessed be the LORD God of Israel from everlasting, and to everlasting. Amen, and Amen.

1 Chronicles 16:36 (Blessing): Blessed be the LORD God of Israel for ever and ever. And all the people said, Amen, and praised the LORD.