

Psalms 115:15

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Ye are blessed of the LORD which made heaven and earth.

Analysis

Ye are blessed of the LORD which made heaven and earth. The blessing concludes by grounding divine favor in divine identity. **Blessed of the LORD** (berukhim atem l'Yahweh, בְּרוּכִים אַתֶּם לַיהוָה) uses the passive participle, indicating a settled state: you ARE blessed, not merely you will receive blessing. It's identity before activity, being before doing.

The phrase **which made heaven and earth** (oseh shamayim va'aretz, עֹשֶׂה שָׁמַיִם וָאָרֶץ) is foundational. The Creator of all things can certainly bless His people. This title appears in the Bible's first verse (Genesis 1:1) and in Abrahamic encounters (Genesis 14:19, 22). It distinguishes Yahweh from territorial or limited deities. Pagan gods ruled specific domains (sea, war, fertility), but Israel's God created and rules all.

The logic is irrefutable: if God made heaven and earth, He owns them (Psalm 24:1). If He owns all, He can dispose of all as He wills. If He chooses to bless His people, no force in heaven or earth can prevent it. Idol gods 'made by hands' are impotent; the God who made hands is omnipotent.

Historical Context

The creation confession ('maker of heaven and earth') was Israel's primary apologetic against pagan polytheism. Babylonian religion credited creation to multiple gods emerging from primordial chaos (Enuma Elish). Canaanite religion divided cosmic control among the pantheon. Israel's radical monotheism claimed

one God spoke all things into existence. This confession distinguished true religion from false, the living God from dead idols. It became the creedal foundation: Apostles' Creed and Nicene Creed both begin 'I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.'

Related Passages

1 John 4:8 — God is love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Study Questions

1. How does understanding yourself as 'blessed' (present tense, settled identity) rather than merely 'hoping to be blessed' change your spiritual posture?
2. What practical difference does it make that the God who blesses you is the same God who created everything?
3. How might regularly confessing God as 'maker of heaven and earth' guard against functional atheism (living as if He has limited power or authority)?

Interlinear Text

יְבָרֵכְךָ יְיָ	אֱלֹהֵינוּ	לִיְהוָה	עָשָׂה	שָׁמַיִם	וְאֶרֶץ:
Ye are blessed	H859	of the LORD	which made	heaven	and earth
H1288		H3068	H6213	H8064	H776

Additional Cross-References

Revelation 14:7 (Creation): Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters.

Psalms 96:5 (Creation): For all the gods of the nations are idols: but the LORD made the heavens.

Genesis 14:19 (Blessing): And he blessed him, and said, Blessed be Abram of the most high God, possessor of heaven and earth:

Genesis 1:1 (Creation): In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.

Psalms 121:2 (Creation): My help cometh from the LORD, which made heaven and earth.

Psalms 134:3 (Creation): The LORD that made heaven and earth bless thee out of Zion.

Acts 14:15 (Creation): And saying, Sirs, why do ye these things? We also are men of like passions with you, and preach unto you that ye should turn from these vanities unto the living God, which made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and all things that are therein:

Psalms 124:8 (Creation): Our help is in the name of the LORD, who made heaven and earth.

1 Peter 3:9 (Blessing): Not rendering evil for evil, or railing for railing: but contrariwise blessing; knowing that ye are thereunto called, that ye should inherit a blessing.