

Psalms 115:8

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

They that make them are like unto them; so is every one that trusteth in them.

Analysis

They that make them are like unto them; so is every one that trusteth in them. This is the devastating conclusion: idol makers become like their idols. The Hebrew *damah* (דָּמָה, to be like, resemble) indicates not just similarity but transformation into likeness. Those who craft and trust in lifeless, senseless objects become spiritually lifeless and senseless themselves.

The progression is theological and psychological. What we worship shapes us. Trusting in blind idols produces spiritual blindness (2 Corinthians 4:4). Depending on deaf gods creates deaf hearts (Matthew 13:15). Humans are inherently worshiping beings; the question is never whether we worship but what. False worship doesn't leave us neutral—it deforms us into the image of our false gods.

This principle finds New Testament development in Romans 1:21-25, where idolatry leads to futile thinking and darkened hearts. Conversely, beholding the true God transforms believers 'from glory to glory' into Christ's image (2 Corinthians 3:18). Worship is inherently transformative; we become like what we behold.

Historical Context

Israel's history demonstrated this principle repeatedly. When Israel worshiped golden calves, they became spiritually deaf to prophetic warnings. When they trusted in political alliances rather than God, they became as unstable as those

Related Passages

Study Questions

Interlinear Text

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 135:18 (Faith): They that make them are like unto them: so is every one that trusteth in them.

Jeremiah 10:8 (Parallel theme): But they are altogether brutish and foolish: the stock is a doctrine of vanities.

Jonah 2:8 (Parallel theme): They that observe lying vanities forsake their own mercy.

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