

Psalms 119:152

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Concerning thy testimonies, I have known of old that thou hast founded them for ever.

Analysis

Concerning thy testimonies, I have known of old (מִעֲדָתֶיךָ יָדָתִי מִזְדָּמָה, medotekha yadati mi-qedem)—Yadati (I have known) implies intimate, experiential knowledge, not mere acquaintance. Mi-qedem means "from ancient time," suggesting both the antiquity of God's revelation and the psalmist's long familiarity. **That thou hast founded them for ever** (כִּי לְעוֹלָם יִסְׁקְפּוּ, ki le-olam yesadtam)—God founded (yasad, established, laid a foundation for) His testimonies eternally.

Jesus declared, "Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law" (Matthew 5:18). Peter writes, "The word of the Lord endureth for ever" (1 Peter 1:25). God's testimonies are not evolving cultural artifacts but eternal foundations—as immovable as creation itself. This verse grounds confidence: what God has established from eternity will stand through all ages. Scripture is not subject to revision.

Historical Context

In a world of competing religious claims and constantly shifting empires, Israel's confidence rested on the eternal stability of YHWH's Word. This confidence sustained the faithful through exile, persecution, and cultural pressure to compromise.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. How does knowing that God's testimonies are 'founded forever' affect your confidence in Scripture's authority today?
2. What difference does long-term, experiential knowledge of God's Word make compared to mere intellectual assent?

Interlinear Text

מִזְמָרָתִי בְּבָשָׂרִי לְעוֹלָם
of old I have known Concerning thy testimonies them for ever
H6924 H3045 H5713 H3588 H5769

:מִזְמָרָתִי!

that thou hast founded

H3245

Additional Cross-References

Luke 21:33 (Parallel theme): Heaven and earth shall pass away: but my words shall not pass away.