

Psalms 119:90

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Thy faithfulness is unto all generations: thou hast established the earth, and it abideth.

Analysis

Thy faithfulness is unto all generations (אֱמוּנָתְךָ לְדֹר וָדֹר emunatekha ledor vador)—God's emunah (faithfulness, steadfastness) transcends time, binding every generation to His covenant promises. The parallelism connects divine faithfulness to creation's stability: **thou hast established the earth, and it abideth** (כֹּונֶנֶתָ כֹּונֶנֶתָ כֹּונֶנֶתָ konanta eretz vata'amod). The verb kun (established) denotes firm foundation—the same word used of God establishing His throne (Psalm 93:2).

This is verse 90 of the Lamedh (ל) section, where each verse begins with the 12th letter of the Hebrew alphabet. The psalmist anchors hope in God's unchanging character: as creation obeys its Maker's ordinances (v. 91), so Scripture remains trustworthy across millennia. This faithfulness reached ultimate expression in Christ, whom Hebrews 13:8 declares "the same yesterday, today, and forever."

Historical Context

Psalms 119, the longest chapter in Scripture (176 verses), is an elaborate acrostic poem with 22 eight-verse stanzas—one for each Hebrew letter. Likely composed during or after the Exile, it reflects Israel's dependence on Torah when temple and land were lost. The Lamedh section (vv. 89-96) meditates on Scripture's eternal nature.

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Study Questions

1. How does God's faithfulness across generations challenge modern notions of moral relativism and changing truth?
2. In what ways does creation's obedience to natural law testify to the reliability of God's revealed law?
3. Where in your life do you need to trust God's unchanging faithfulness despite changing circumstances?

Interlinear Text

דָּרִי	דָּרִי	אֱמוּנָתְךָ	כֹּחַ נָתַתָּ	אֶרֶץ רָץ
generations	generations	Thy faithfulness	thou hast established	the earth
H1755	H1755	H530	H3559	H776
וַיִּתְעַמֵּד:				
and it abideth				
H5975				

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 93:1 (Parallel theme): The LORD reigneth, he is clothed with majesty; the LORD is clothed with strength, wherewith he hath girded himself: the world also is stablished, that it cannot be moved.

Psalms 100:5 (Parallel theme): For the LORD is good; his mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth to all generations.

Psalms 148:6 (Parallel theme): He hath also stablished them for ever and ever: he hath made a decree which shall not pass.

Micah 7:20 (Parallel theme): Thou wilt perform the truth to Jacob, and the mercy to Abraham, which thou hast sworn unto our fathers from the days of old.

Psalms 36:5 (Faith): Thy mercy, O LORD, is in the heavens; and thy faithfulness reacheth unto the clouds.

Psalms 89:11 (Parallel theme): The heavens are thine, the earth also is thine: as for the world and the fulness thereof, thou hast founded them.

Deuteronomy 7:9 (Faith): Know therefore that the LORD thy God, he is God, the faithful God, which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love him and keep his commandments to a thousand generations;

Psalms 104:5 (Parallel theme): Who laid the foundations of the earth, that it should not be removed for ever.

Ecclesiastes 1:4 (Parallel theme): One generation passeth away, and another generation cometh: but the earth abideth for ever.