

Psalms 125:1

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

They that trust in the LORD shall be as mount Zion, which cannot be removed, but abideth for ever.

Analysis

The psalm begins with a confidence declaration using Mount Zion imagery: 'They that trust in the LORD shall be as mount Zion, which cannot be removed, but abideth for ever.' The subject 'they that trust' makes faith the defining characteristic of God's people. Trust (Hebrew 'batach') means confident reliance, not mere intellectual assent. The comparison to 'mount Zion' invokes Jerusalem's geographic and theological significance - the mountain where God's temple stood, symbolizing His presence and covenant faithfulness. The phrase 'cannot be removed' emphasizes immovability and permanence. Mountains seem eternal from human perspective, unmoved by storms or armies. The parallel 'abideth for ever' reinforces permanence. The verse promises that those who trust God will share His stability and permanence - not that circumstances won't shake them, but that their fundamental security remains. Faith connects believers to God's eternal unchangeableness.

Historical Context

Mount Zion (Jerusalem) endured multiple sieges but remained standing - symbolizing God's faithfulness to preserve His people and dwelling place. Though Jerusalem fell to Babylon, it was rebuilt, demonstrating that even apparent destruction couldn't permanently remove God's purposes. For post-exilic pilgrims singing this, Zion's restoration proved God's immovability.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Study Questions

1. What does it mean to trust in the LORD rather than in circumstances or self?
2. How does the immovability of mountains illustrate the security of those who trust God?
3. In what sense do believers 'abide forever' even though they face trials and mortality?
4. How does this promise apply when believers experience circumstances that feel like removal or displacement?
5. What practices cultivate the kind of trust that produces immovable faith?

Interlinear Text

הַבֹּטֶחַ יִם	בֵּיתֵהּ הַ	כָּהֵר	צִיּוֹן	לֹא
They that trust	in the LORD	shall be as mount	Zion	H3808
H982	H3068	H2022	H6726	
! מִן וְ	לְעוֹלָם	יָשֹׁב:		
which cannot be removed	for ever	but abideth		
H4131	H5769	H3427		

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 62:2 (Parallel theme): He only is my rock and my salvation; he is my defence; I shall not be greatly moved.

Zechariah 1:17 (References Lord): Cry yet, saying, Thus saith the LORD of hosts; My cities through prosperity shall yet be spread abroad; and the LORD shall yet comfort Zion, and shall yet choose Jerusalem.

Psalms 25:2 (Faith): O my God, I trust in thee: let me not be ashamed, let not mine enemies triumph over me.

Psalms 34:22 (Faith): The LORD redeemeth the soul of his servants: and none of them that trust in him shall be desolate.

Psalms 120:1 (References Lord): In my distress I cried unto the LORD, and he heard me.

1 Chronicles 5:20 (Faith): And they were helped against them, and the Hagarites were delivered into their hand, and all that were with them: for they cried to God in the battle, and he was intreated of them; because they put their trust in him.

Psalms 62:6 (Parallel theme): He only is my rock and my salvation: he is my defence; I shall not be moved.

Psalms 121:1 (Parallel theme): I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help.

Isaiah 51:16 (Parallel theme): And I have put my words in thy mouth, and I have covered thee in the shadow of mine hand, that I may plant the heavens, and lay the foundations of the earth, and say unto Zion, Thou art my people.

Isaiah 12:6 (Parallel theme): Cry out and shout, thou inhabitant of Zion: for great is the Holy One of Israel in the midst of thee.