

Psalms 132:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For thy servant David's sake turn not away the face of thine anointed.

Analysis

The prayer appeals to Davidic covenant: 'For thy servant David's sake turn not away the face of thine anointed.' The word 'for' provides basis for the request - David's faithful service provides grounds for blessing his descendants. 'Thy servant David' emphasizes David's role as God's chosen, faithful servant. The plea 'turn not away the face' means don't reject or refuse - turning away one's face indicates rejection or displeasure. The phrase 'thine anointed' (meshiach - messiah) refers to David's descendant, the reigning king. Every Davidic king was 'the LORD's anointed' (1 Samuel 24:6; 2 Samuel 1:14). The prayer asks God to continue favoring Davidic dynasty based on covenant promises. This reflects understanding that God's relationship with current king depends partly on covenant with David. Christians see ultimate fulfillment in Christ, David's greater son, whose face God will never turn away.

Historical Context

God established covenant with David promising eternal dynasty (2 Samuel 7:12-16; Psalm 89:3-4, 28-37). Each subsequent king ruled under this covenant. The prayer appears to come from Solomon's era or later, appealing to Davidic covenant for continued blessing. Despite individual kings' failures, God maintained the line, ultimately fulfilled in Christ.

Related Passages

1 John 4:8 — God is love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Study Questions

1. How does David's faithfulness provide basis for blessing his descendants?
2. What does 'turn not away the face' reveal about the importance of God's favorable presence?
3. How does the title 'thine anointed' anticipate Christ, the ultimate Anointed One?
4. In what ways do believers appeal to Christ's righteousness when approaching God?
5. How does the Davidic covenant demonstrate God's faithfulness across generations?

Interlinear Text

בַּ עֲבוּר	דָּוִד	עַבְדְּךָ	אֵל	תִּשָּׁב	פְּנֵי
H5668	David's	For thy servant	H408	sake turn not away	the face
	H1732	H5650		H7725	H6440

מְשִׁיחֶךָ:
of thine anointed
H4899