

Psalm 132:14

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

This is my rest for ever: here will I dwell; for I have desired it.

Analysis

God's declaration of permanent residence: 'This is my rest for ever: here will I dwell; for I have desired it.' The emphatic 'this' points specifically to Zion. The phrase 'my rest for ever' (menucha ad) echoes verse 8's prayer - God answers by committing to eternal dwelling. 'Rest' implies settled, stable, permanent presence versus wandering (wilderness, ark's journey). The declaration 'here will I dwell' is straightforward commitment to location. The verb 'dwell' (yashab) means to sit, remain, inhabit - suggesting permanent settlement. The reason 'for I have desired it' reiterates verse 13 - God's choice flows from His desire/delight. This is remarkable - the transcendent God who created all things chooses to dwell permanently with His people in specific location. Divine presence among people is grace, not necessity.

Historical Context

This promise was fulfilled in Solomon's temple dedication when God's glory filled the house (1 Kings 8:10-11). Though temple was destroyed, God's presence returned to second temple (Haggai 2:7-9). For Christians, God dwells in Christ (John 1:14), the church (1 Corinthians 3:16; Ephesians 2:21-22), and ultimately new Jerusalem (Revelation 21:3).

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Study Questions

1. What does God's 'rest for ever' mean for His people?
2. How does God's choice to dwell with humanity demonstrate grace?
3. What is the relationship between God's transcendence (everywhere) and immanence (dwelling in Zion)?
4. How has the location of God's dwelling shifted from Zion to church to new creation?
5. What does it mean that God 'desires' to dwell with His people?

Interlinear Text

זֶה מִנְוָתָת יְהוָה עַד עַד פָּה אָשָׁב כִּי
H2063 This is my rest for ever for ever H6311 here will I dwell H3588
H4496 H5703 H5703 H3427

אֶתְתִּינָה

for I have desired

H183

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 132:8 (Parallel theme): Arise, O LORD, into thy rest; thou, and the ark of thy strength.

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.

Psalms 135:21 (Parallel theme): Blessed be the LORD out of Zion, which dwelleth at Jerusalem. Praise ye the LORD.

Psalms 87:2 (Parallel theme): The LORD loveth the gates of Zion more than all the dwellings of Jacob.

Psalms 76:2 (Parallel theme): In Salem also is his tabernacle, and his dwelling place in Zion.

1 Kings 8:13 (Parallel theme): I have surely built thee an house to dwell in, a settled place for thee to abide in for ever.

Isaiah 8:18 (Parallel theme): Behold, I and the children whom the LORD hath given me are for signs and for wonders in Israel from the LORD of hosts, which dwelleth in mount Zion.

Psalms 68:18 (Parallel theme): Thou hast ascended on high, thou hast led captivity captive: thou hast received gifts for men; yea, for the rebellious also, that the LORD God might dwell among them.

Zephaniah 3:17 (Parallel theme): The LORD thy God in the midst of thee is mighty; he will save, he will rejoice over thee with joy; he will rest in his love, he will joy over thee with singing.

Isaiah 66:1 (Parallel theme): Thus saith the LORD, The heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool: where is the house that ye build unto me? and where is the place of my rest?