

Psalms 132:17

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

There will I make the horn of David to bud: I have ordained a lamp for mine anointed.

Analysis

Davidic dynasty is guaranteed: 'There will I make the horn of David to bud: I have ordained a lamp for mine anointed.' The phrase 'there' connects to Zion (vv. 13-14) - in the place God chose. The metaphor 'make the horn of David to bud' combines two images: horn (qeren) represents power/strength (1 Samuel 2:10; Psalm 89:17, 24; 92:10), while 'bud/sprout' (tsamach) suggests growth, branching, flourishing (Isaiah 4:2; Jeremiah 23:5; 33:15; Zechariah 3:8; 6:12). Together they picture David's dynasty growing in power and extending influence. The parallel 'I have ordained a lamp for mine anointed' uses lamp (ner) symbolizing continuing dynasty, life, testimony (1 Kings 11:36; 15:4; 2 Kings 8:19; Psalm 18:28). 'Ordained' (arak) means to arrange, set in order, prepare. The lamp won't go out - David's line continues. This is Messianic prophecy fulfilled in Christ, the Branch, the Light.

Historical Context

Despite dynastic interruptions (exile, no king for centuries), God preserved David's line culminating in Christ. The imagery of sprouting/budding appears in Messianic prophecies (Isaiah 11:1; Jeremiah 23:5; Zechariah 6:12). The lamp represents covenant continuity - God promised David's lamp wouldn't be extinguished (1 Kings 11:36; 15:4; 2 Kings 8:19).

Related Passages

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. How do 'horn budding' and 'lamp ordained' work together to picture Davidic dynasty?
2. What does it mean that God 'makes' the horn bud and 'ordains' the lamp - who is the agent?
3. How does this verse point to Christ as the Branch and the Light?
4. What encouragement does God's preservation of David's line provide about His covenant faithfulness?
5. In what ways does Christ's eternal reign fulfill this promise?

Interlinear Text

שׁוֹמֵר	אֶצֶב יָהּ	קֶרֶן	לְדָוִד	עֲבָרְתִּי	נֵר
H8033	There will I make	the horn	of David	I have ordained	a lamp
	H6779	H7161	H1732	H6186	H5216

לְמִשְׁחִי:

for mine anointed

H4899

Additional Cross-References

Luke 1:69 (References David): And hath raised up an horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David;

Ezekiel 29:21 (Parallel theme): In that day will I cause the horn of the house of Israel to bud forth, and I will give thee the opening of the mouth in the midst of them; and they shall know that I am the LORD.

1 Kings 11:36 (References David): And unto his son will I give one tribe, that David my servant may have a light alway before me in Jerusalem, the city which I have chosen me to put my name there.

2 Chronicles 21:7 (References David): Howbeit the LORD would not destroy the house of David, because of the covenant that he had made with David, and as he promised to give a light to him and to his sons for ever.

1 Kings 15:4 (References David): Nevertheless for David's sake did the LORD his God give him a lamp in Jerusalem, to set up his son after him, and to establish Jerusalem: