

Psalm 134:3

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The LORD that made heaven and earth bless thee out of Zion.

Analysis

The psalm concludes with priestly blessing: 'The LORD that made heaven and earth bless thee out of Zion.' This verse shifts from imperative (vv. 1-2: you bless the LORD) to petition/promise (may the LORD bless you). The description 'LORD that made heaven and earth' emphasizes God's comprehensive creative power and authority - the Creator of all blesses His people. This title appears repeatedly in Psalms (115:15; 121:2; 124:8; 146:6), especially in blessings. The phrase 'bless thee out of Zion' indicates blessing flows from God's dwelling place. 'Out of' (min) suggests Zion is source from which blessing emanates. The shift to singular 'thee' may address each individual pilgrim departing Jerusalem or may function as collective singular (each representing all). This benediction sends worshipers out with confidence that the Creator-God who dwells in Zion will bless them. Proper worship (blessing the LORD) results in received blessing (LORD blesses His people).

Historical Context

This follows pattern of Aaronic blessing (Numbers 6:24-26) where priests pronounced divine favor on people. The connection between Zion (God's dwelling) and blessing reflects covenant theology - blessing flows from God's presence among His people. As pilgrims returned home from festivals, this benediction assured them God's blessing accompanied them despite geographic distance from temple.

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. How does God's identity as Creator provide foundation for confidence in His blessing?
2. What is the relationship between blessing the LORD (vv. 1-2) and receiving blessing (v. 3)?
3. Why does blessing come 'out of Zion' - what does location signify?
4. How do Christians experience blessing 'out of Zion' today?
5. In what ways does this benediction send worshipers out with confidence and hope?

Interlinear Text

בָּרוּךְ תִּהְיָה יְהוָה מֶלֶךְ עַל־שָׁמָן וְעַל־אָרֶץ:

bless

The LORD

thee out of Zion

that made

heaven

and earth

H1288

H3068

H6726

H6213

H8064

H776

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 128:5 (Blessing): The LORD shall bless thee out of Zion: and thou shalt see the good of Jerusalem all the days of thy life.

Psalms 124:8 (Creation): Our help is in the name of the LORD, who made heaven and earth.

Romans 11:26 (Parallel theme): And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob:

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

Psalms 110:2 (References Lord): The LORD shall send the rod of thy strength out of Zion: rule thou in the midst of thine enemies.

Psalms 14:7 (References Lord): Oh that the salvation of Israel were come out of Zion! when the LORD bringeth back the captivity of his people, Jacob shall rejoice, and Israel shall be glad.

Psalms 20:2 (Parallel theme): Send thee help from the sanctuary, and strengthen thee out of Zion;

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