

Psalm 135:6

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Whatsoever the LORD pleased, that did he in heaven, and in earth, in the seas, and all deep places.

Analysis

Divine sovereignty receives magnificent expression: 'Whatsoever the LORD pleased, that did he.' The Hebrew construction 'kol asher chaphets' emphasizes comprehensive, unhindered will - God does all His pleasure. This is not arbitrary power but purposeful sovereignty guided by infinite wisdom. The fourfold domain - heaven, earth, seas, and deep places - encompasses the entire created order. 'Deep places' (tehomot) recalls Genesis 1:2 and the primordial waters, suggesting God's authority extends even to mysterious, chaotic realms. No sphere of existence lies outside His control. This verse anticipates Ephesians 1:11, where God 'worketh all things after the counsel of his own will.' For the believer, divine sovereignty is not threatening but comforting - the God who rules all things is the same God who chose us as His treasure.

Historical Context

Ancient cosmology viewed the 'deep places' as mysterious, often threatening realms associated with chaos and sea monsters. Canaanite mythology depicted cosmic battles between deities and sea forces. Israel's faith radically reinterpreted this: Yahweh created and controls these realms effortlessly, without struggle or opposition.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Hebrews 11:1 – Definition of faith

Study Questions

1. How does God's absolute sovereignty bring comfort in uncertain circumstances?
2. What areas of your life need to be surrendered to God's sovereign will?

Interlinear Text

ל	אָשָׁר	כִּי	יְהִי	הַשְׁלָמָה	בְּשָׁמָיִם	בְּאָרֶץ
H3605	H834	pleased	Whatsoever the LORD	that did	he in heaven	and in earth
		H2654	H3068	H6213	H8064	H776
in the seas	H3605	and all deep places				
H3220		H8415				

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 115:3 (Parallel theme): But our God is in the heavens: he hath done whatsoever he hath pleased.

Daniel 4:35 (Parallel theme): And all the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing: and he doeth according to his will in the army of heaven, and among the inhabitants of the earth: and none can stay his hand, or say unto him, What doest thou?

Matthew 28:18 (Parallel theme): And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.

Psalms 33:9 (Parallel theme): For he spake, and it was done; he commanded, and it stood fast.

Isaiah 46:10 (Parallel theme): Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure:

Psalms 33:11 (References Lord): The counsel of the LORD standeth for ever, the thoughts of his heart to all generations.

Amos 4:13 (References Lord): For, lo, he that formeth the mountains, and createth the wind, and declareth unto man what is his thought, that maketh the morning darkness, and treadeth upon the high places of the earth, The LORD, The God of hosts, is his name.

Amos 9:6 (References Lord): It is he that buildeth his stories in the heaven, and hath founded his troop in the earth; he that calleth for the waters of the sea, and poureth them out upon the face of the earth: The LORD is his name.

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