

Psalm 135:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

He causeth the vapours to ascend from the ends of the earth;
he maketh lightnings for the rain; he bringeth the wind out of
his treasures.

Analysis

God's sovereignty over nature receives poetic elaboration through meteorological phenomena: vapours rising, lightning flashing, wind emerging from divine 'treasures' (otsarotav). The Hebrew 'nesi'im' (vapours, mists) describes water vapor ascending from earth's extremities - a process ancients observed but could not explain scientifically. The phrase 'lightnings for the rain' captures the connection between electrical storms and precipitation. Most striking is the image of wind stored in God's treasures, suggesting divine storehouses from which He dispenses atmospheric forces. This language, nearly identical to Jeremiah 10:13, portrays God as cosmic manager with unlimited resources. Weather, often feared and worshiped by pagans (Baal was a storm god), is merely a tool in Yahweh's hand. Jesus demonstrated this same authority when He rebuked wind and waves (Mark 4:39).

Historical Context

This verse is virtually identical to Jeremiah 10:13 and 51:16, suggesting either common liturgical source or deliberate quotation. Baal worship, prevalent in Canaan, centered on the storm god believed to control rain and agricultural fertility. By attributing weather phenomena to Yahweh, Israel directly challenged Baal's supposed domain.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

1 John 4:8 — God is love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Study Questions

1. How do natural phenomena like weather remind you of God's creative power?
2. What aspects of creation most powerfully declare God's glory to you?

Interlinear Text

מַעַל	הַשְׁאִים	מִלְאָכָה	בְּאַרְצָה
to ascend	He causeth the vapours	from the ends	of the earth
H5927	H5387	H7097	H776

לְפָטָר	עַש	מִזְאָחָה	רַקְעָם	מִאֲזְרֻחָה:
for the rain	he maketh	he bringeth	the wind	out of his treasures
H4306	H6213	H3318	H7307	H214

Additional Cross-References

Jeremiah 10:13 (Light): When he uttereth his voice, there is a multitude of waters in the heavens, and he causeth the vapours to ascend from the ends of the earth; he maketh lightnings with rain, and bringeth forth the wind out of his treasures.

Jeremiah 51:16 (Light): When he uttereth his voice, there is a multitude of waters in the heavens; and he causeth the vapours to ascend from the ends of the earth: he maketh lightnings with rain, and bringeth forth the wind out of his treasures.

Zechariah 10:1 (Parallel theme): Ask ye of the LORD rain in the time of the latter rain; so the LORD shall make bright clouds, and give them showers of rain, to every one grass in the field.

John 3:8 (Parallel theme): The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit.

Psalms 148:8 (Parallel theme): Fire, and hail; snow, and vapour; stormy wind fulfilling his word:

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