

Psalm 139:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Even there shall thy hand lead me, and thy right hand shall hold me.

Analysis

Even there shall thy hand lead me, and thy right hand shall hold me—The conditional clauses of verses 8-9 ('if I...') resolve in this assurance: even there (אָתָה, gam-sham). Wherever 'there' is—heights, depths, east, west—God's hand performs a dual function: lead (nachah, נָחַת, to guide) and hold (achaz, אָחַז, to grasp firmly). The right hand signifies power and favor.

God's omnipresence isn't neutral surveillance but active guidance and protective grasp. We cannot flee beyond His reach, but why would we want to? His hand leads through unfamiliar territory and holds us secure in dangerous places. The same hand that created galaxies holds you steady.

Historical Context

The right hand in Hebrew culture symbolized strength, authority, and covenant faithfulness. God's right hand delivered Israel from Egypt (Exodus 15:6), sustained them in wilderness, and seated the Messiah in power (Psalm 110:1). David draws on this rich tradition.

Related Passages

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Study Questions

1. Where has God's hand led you that you didn't want to go—and in hindsight, how did that guidance prove faithful?
2. What situation requires you to trust that God's right hand is holding you, even though you cannot see or feel it?
3. How does knowing God will 'lead' and 'hold' you anywhere change your willingness to go where He sends?

Interlinear Text

וְגַם	וְ	שֶׁ	זֶה	פָּנָצֶת	נִ	וְתִּחְזַּקְנִ
H1571	H8033		Even there shall thy hand	lead	shall hold	
			H3027	H5148	H270	

וְמִתְּחַזֵּקְנִ

me and thy right hand

H3225

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 23:3 (Parallel theme): He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Isaiah 41:13 (Parallel theme): For I the LORD thy God will hold thy right hand, saying unto thee, Fear not; I will help thee.

Psalms 73:23 (Parallel theme): Nevertheless I am continually with thee: thou hast holden me by my right hand.

Psalms 63:8 (Parallel theme): My soul followeth hard after thee: thy right hand upholdeth me.