

# Psalms 144:5

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Bow thy heavens, O LORD, and come down: touch the mountains, and they shall smoke.

## Analysis

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**Bow thy heavens, O Lord, and come down** (יְהוָה הִטְשָׁמִיךְ וַתֵּרֶד)—Hat shamekha ('bend your heavens') recalls theophanies where God tears through the veil separating heaven and earth (Exodus 19:18, Isaiah 64:1). Vtered (and descend)—divine invasion into earthly conflict. **Touch the mountains, and they shall smoke**—Sinai imagery (Exodus 19:18, Psalm 104:32).

David, overwhelmed by enemies, doesn't merely pray for help but summons divine intervention in cosmic proportions. He needs more than tactical assistance—he needs God Himself to descend in theophanic power. This prayer finds ultimate fulfillment in the Incarnation (heaven bowing down in Christ, John 1:14) and will be consummated at the Second Coming (Matthew 24:30, Revelation 19:11-16).

## Historical Context

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David likely prayed this during military crises when surrounded by superior forces (2 Samuel 5:17-25 against Philistines, or later conflicts). The language echoes Moses at Sinai and anticipates apocalyptic visions in Isaiah, Ezekiel, and Revelation. God's 'coming down' always means judgment for enemies and deliverance for His people.

## Related Passages

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**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

**1 John 4:8** — God is love

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

## Study Questions

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1. What situations in your life require not just incremental help but God 'bowing the heavens' and intervening dramatically?
2. How did Christ's incarnation fulfill this prayer for God to 'come down,' and how will His return complete it?
3. Why does corporate or national crisis sometimes drive believers to pray with urgency and cosmic scope they neglect in comfortable times?

## Interlinear Text

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הַיְיָ	הִט	שָׁמַיְךָ	וַיֵּרַד	גַּע	בְּהָרֵי יָם
O LORD	Bow	thy heavens	and come down	touch	the mountains
H3068	H5186	H8064	H3381	H5060	H2022

וַיִּטְשְׁנוּ:

and they shall smoke

H6225

## Additional Cross-References

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**Psalms 104:32** (Parallel theme): He looketh on the earth, and it trembleth: he toucheth the hills, and they smoke.

**Psalms 18:9** (Parallel theme): He bowed the heavens also, and came down: and darkness was under his feet.

**Exodus 19:18** (References Lord): And mount Sinai was altogether on a smoke, because the LORD descended upon it in fire: and the smoke thereof ascended as the smoke of a furnace, and the whole mount quaked greatly.

