

Psalms 145:14

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The LORD upholdeth all that fall, and raiseth up all those that be bowed down.

Analysis

The LORD upholdeth all that fall, and raiseth up all those that be bowed down. God's kingdom (vv. 11-13) manifests in compassionate action toward the vulnerable. Somekh Yahweh lēkhol-hannoflim (סוֹמֵךְ יְהוָה לְכָל־הַנֹּפְלִים) "Yahweh supports all who fall"—the participle somekh (סוֹמֵךְ) indicates continuous, habitual action. God doesn't merely prevent falls but supports those who have fallen, whether morally, circumstantially, or physically.

Raiseth up all those that be bowed down (vəzoqef lēkhol-hakēfufim, וְזִוְקֵף לְכָל־הַכְּפֻּפִּים)—kēfufim (כְּפֻּפִּים) describes those bent over by burdens, oppression, or grief. Jesus embodied this compassion, healing the woman bent double for eighteen years (Luke 13:11-13). God's upholding grace sustains believers through trials until final glorification.

Historical Context

Ancient Near Eastern kings often portrayed themselves as protectors of widows, orphans, and the oppressed, but such claims were usually propaganda. David proclaims that God truly fulfills this royal ideal, caring for society's most vulnerable. This established the standard by which Israel's kings would be judged (Psalm 72:12-14).

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. How can believers extend God's upholding grace to those experiencing moral, spiritual, or circumstantial falls?
2. What promises sustain Christians when feeling overwhelmed by burdens that bow them down?
3. In what ways should the church institutionally embody God's care for the falling and bowed down?

Interlinear Text

סֹמֵךְ	יְהוָה	לְכָל	הַנִּפְלֵי יָם	זֹקֵף	לְכָל
upholdeth	The LORD	H3605	all that fall	and raiseth up	H3605
H5564	H3068		H5307	H2210	

הַכְּפוּפִים:

all those that be bowed down

H3721

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 146:8 (Resurrection): The LORD openeth the eyes of the blind: the LORD raiseth them that are bowed down: the LORD loveth the righteous:

Psalms 37:24 (References Lord): Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down: for the LORD upholdeth him with his hand.

Psalms 94:18 (References Lord): When I said, My foot slippeth; thy mercy, O LORD, held me up.

Psalms 119:117 (Parallel theme): Hold thou me up, and I shall be safe: and I will have respect unto thy statutes continually.

Psalms 38:6 (Parallel theme): I am troubled; I am bowed down greatly; I go mourning all the day long.

Psalms 42:5 (Resurrection): Why art thou cast down, O my soul? and why art thou disquieted in me? hope thou in God: for I shall yet praise him for the help of his countenance.

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