

Psalm 22:25

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

My praise shall be of thee in the great congregation: I will pay my vows before them that fear him.

Analysis

Praise 'in the great congregation' emphasizes public, corporate worship. Paying 'vows before them that fear him' refers to fulfilling promises made during distress—a common practice in lament psalms. From a Reformed perspective, this models covenant faithfulness: God keeps His promises, and His people respond by keeping theirs. Public worship becomes the forum for testifying to God's faithfulness and fulfilling sacred obligations made in private prayer.

Historical Context

Israelites would vow offerings or service if God delivered them from danger. After deliverance, they would publicly fulfill these vows in the temple, combining thanksgiving sacrifice with testimony. This practice created accountability and corporate encouragement.

Related Passages

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. What 'vows' have you made to God that need public fulfillment?

2. How does corporate worship differ from private devotion, and why are both necessary?

Interlinear Text

נְדָבָר	בְּקָרְבָּן	תְּהִלָּתִי	מִ אַתָּה	בְּ
H853	My praise	congregation	shall be of thee in the great	my vows
H8416		H6951		H5088
I will pay	בְּפָנָיהם	יְרָאָיו		
H7999	H5048	before them that fear	H3373	

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 35:18 (Resurrection): I will give thee thanks in the great congregation: I will praise thee among much people.

Psalms 66:13 (Parallel theme): I will go into thy house with burnt offerings: I will pay thee my vows,

Psalms 111:1 (Resurrection): Praise ye the LORD. I will praise the LORD with my whole heart, in the assembly of the upright, and in the congregation.

Psalms 22:22 (Resurrection): I will declare thy name unto my brethren: in the midst of the congregation will I praise thee.

Psalms 56:12 (Resurrection): Thy vows are upon me, O God: I will render praises unto thee.

Psalms 66:16 (Parallel theme): Come and hear, all ye that fear God, and I will declare what he hath done for my soul.