

Psalms 25:12

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

What man is he that feareth the LORD? him shall he teach in the way that he shall choose.

Analysis

The question 'What man is he that feareth the LORD?' introduces divine instruction: 'him shall he teach in the way that he shall choose.' God personally instructs those who fear Him, guiding their choices. The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom (Prov. 9:10)—prerequisite for divine teaching. Reformed theology sees this as effectual calling and illumination: God teaches His elect through Word and Spirit, enabling wise choices that glorify Him. Divine pedagogy shapes the God-fearer's path.

Historical Context

Israel's wisdom tradition emphasized that fearing God led to understanding and wise living. God taught through Torah, prophets, sages, and providence. Those who feared Him learned to discern His will and walk in it.

Related Passages

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Proverbs 16:6 (References Lord): By mercy and truth iniquity is purged: and by the fear of the LORD men depart from evil.

Proverbs 15:33 (References Lord): The fear of the LORD is the instruction of wisdom; and before honour is humility.

Isaiah 35:8 (Parallel theme): And an highway shall be there, and a way, and it shall be called The way of holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it; but it shall be for those: the wayfaring men, though fools, shall not err therein.

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