

# Psalms 25:14

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The secret of the LORD is with them that fear him; and he will shew them his covenant.

## Analysis

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**The secret of the LORD is with them that fear him; and he will shew them his covenant.** This verse reveals the intimate relationship God offers to those who revere Him, promising both special knowledge and covenant revelation. The structure moves from present reality (the secret) to future promise (showing the covenant).

"The secret" (sod, סוד) means counsel, intimate conversation, confidential discussion—like friends sharing private matters. Proverbs 3:32 declares: "his secret is with the righteous." Amos 3:7: "Surely the Lord GOD will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets." This isn't esoteric knowledge but intimate fellowship—God sharing His heart with those close to Him.

"Of the LORD" (Yahweh, יהוה) uses the covenant name, emphasizing that this intimacy flows from covenant relationship. The God who bound Himself to Israel in faithful love shares Himself with His covenant people. This is relationship, not mere information transfer.

"Is with them that fear him" (lire'av, לִירֵאָו) identifies the recipients. Yare (יָרָא) means to fear, revere, stand in awe. This isn't terror but reverential awe that produces obedience. Proverbs 1:7: "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge." Fear of God means taking Him seriously, respecting His authority, and submitting to His ways.

"He will shew them his covenant" (וְבִרְתּוֹ לְהוֹדִיעֵם, uvrito lehodia'am) promises revelation of covenant realities. Berit (בְּרִית) is God's binding agreement, His sworn commitment to His people. God not only makes covenant but reveals its meaning—unpacking its implications, explaining its benefits, demonstrating its reliability. This is progressive revelation: God reveals deeper understanding of His covenant promises to those who walk with Him faithfully.

## Historical Context

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The concept of God's "secret counsel" appears throughout Scripture's wisdom literature. Job 15:8 asks: "Hast thou heard the secret of God?" Psalm 111:10: "A good understanding have all they that do his commandments." John 15:15: Jesus tells disciples: "Henceforth I call you not servants...but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you."

The covenant (berit) is central to Israel's identity and theology. God's covenant with Abraham promised land, descendants, and blessing (Genesis 15, 17). The Mosaic covenant at Sinai established Israel as God's treasured possession (Exodus 19:5-6). David received covenant promise of eternal dynasty (2 Samuel 7). Each generation needed to understand their covenant identity and obligations.

The connection between fearing God and receiving revelation challenges modern assumptions. Contemporary culture values self-expression over submission, personal opinion over divine authority. But Scripture consistently teaches that wisdom comes through humble submission to God. Proverbs 9:10: "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding."

Jesus revealed the ultimate covenant—the new covenant in His blood (Luke 22:20). What David glimpsed partially, believers now understand more fully through Christ. Yet the principle remains: those who fear (revere, obey) God receive deeper understanding of His covenant promises and purposes.

## Related Passages

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**Romans 10:9** — Confession and belief for salvation

**Ephesians 2:8** — Salvation by grace through faith

**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

## Study Questions

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1. What does it mean that God shares His 'secret' with those who fear Him, and how is this different from merely knowing facts about God?
2. Why is 'fear of the Lord' (reverential awe and obedience) the prerequisite for receiving God's intimate counsel?
3. How does God 'show His covenant' to His people, and what does this reveal about His desire for relationship rather than mere legal obligation?
4. In what ways has God revealed deeper understanding of His promises and purposes to you as you've walked with Him over time?
5. How does Jesus's calling His disciples 'friends' and making known what He heard from the Father (John 15:15) fulfill this psalm's promise?

## Interlinear Text

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סֵתֵר	הַיְהוָה	לִירֵאָיו	וְבְרִיתוֹ
The secret	of the LORD	is with them that fear	them his covenant
H5475	H3068	H3373	H1285

  

לְהוֹדִיעֵם:
him and he will shew
H3045

## Additional Cross-References

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**John 15:15** (References Lord): Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you.

**John 7:17** (Parallel theme): If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself.

**Ephesians 1:9** (Parallel theme): Having made known unto us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure which he hath purposed in himself:

**Revelation 2:17** (Parallel theme): He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the hidden manna, and will give him a white stone, and in the stone a new name written, which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth it.

**1 Corinthians 2:14** (Parallel theme): But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

**Ephesians 1:18** (Parallel theme): The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints,

**Deuteronomy 4:13** (Covenant): And he declared unto you his covenant, which he commanded you to perform, even ten commandments; and he wrote them upon two tables of stone.

**John 17:6** (Parallel theme): I have manifested thy name unto the men which thou gavest me out of the world: thine they were, and thou gavest them me; and they have kept thy word.

**Proverbs 3:32** (References Lord): For the froward is abomination to the LORD: but his secret is with the righteous.

**John 14:17** (Parallel theme): Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.

