

Psalms 29:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The voice of the LORD divideth the flames of fire.

Analysis

The statement 'The voice of the LORD divideth the flames of fire' depicts divine control over destructive natural forces. Lightning ('flames of fire') obeys God's voice. Reformed theology sees providence—God governs all natural phenomena down to individual lightning bolts. Nothing occurs outside His decree. This assures believers that even chaotic, destructive forces serve God's purposes. Sovereignty extends to every detail of creation.

Historical Context

Lightning was mysterious and terrifying to ancient peoples, often attributed to gods' anger. Scripture reveals Yahweh controls lightning (Job 37:3, Ps. 135:7), demonstrating His sovereignty over what seems chaotic and random.

Related Passages

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. How does God's control over 'flames of fire' comfort you in seemingly chaotic circumstances?
2. What natural forces today remind you of God's sovereign power?

Interlinear Text

קוֹל	יְהוָה	חִצֵּב	לֶהֱבֹת	אֵשׁ:
The voice	of the LORD	divideth	the flames	of fire
H6963	H3068	H2672	H3852	H784

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 77:18 (Parallel theme): The voice of thy thunder was in the heaven: the lightnings lightened the world: the earth trembled and shook.

Leviticus 10:2 (References Lord): And there went out fire from the LORD, and devoured them, and they died before the LORD.

Job 38:35 (Parallel theme): Canst thou send lightnings, that they may go, and say unto thee, Here we are?

Job 37:3 (Parallel theme): He directeth it under the whole heaven, and his lightning unto the ends of the earth.

Exodus 9:23 (References Lord): And Moses stretched forth his rod toward heaven: and the LORD sent thunder and hail, and the fire ran along upon the ground; and the LORD rained hail upon the land of Egypt.