

Psalm 40:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

I have not hid thy righteousness within my heart; I have declared thy faithfulness and thy salvation: I have not concealed thy lovingkindness and thy truth from the great congregation.

Analysis

The parallelism intensifies the public nature of David's witness: he has not hidden God's righteousness 'within his heart' but declared faithfulness and salvation. The phrase 'thy lovingkindness' (chesed) and 'thy truth' (emet) form a hendiadys describing God's covenant character--faithful love that is utterly reliable.

Historical Context

The terms chesed and emet frequently appear together as essential attributes of Yahweh, distinguishing Him from capricious pagan deities. This pairing appears in God's self-revelation to Moses (Exodus 34:6).

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Study Questions

1. Why might we be tempted to 'hide' God's righteousness within our hearts rather than declaring it?
2. How do lovingkindness and truth together describe God's character?

Interlinear Text

אַמְנַתְּךָ לְבִّי בַּתְּרוּ כַּסְתִּין צַדְקָתָךְ
thy righteousness I have not hid within my heart thy faithfulness
H6666 H3808 H3680 H8432 H3820 H530

מִשְׁעָדָךְ כַּמְ דָּתִי לֹא אָמַרְתִּי וְתַשׁוּעָתָךְ
thy lovingkindness I have declared I have not concealed and thy salvation
H2617 H3582 H3808 H559

בְּבָבָי לְקָהָל אַמְתָּךְ
from the great congregation and thy truth
H7227 H6951 H571

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 34:6 (Salvation): This poor man cried, and the LORD heard him, and saved him out of all his troubles.

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